No Price is Too High To Pay for Freedom

CITIZEN'S DUTIES

1. To render all possible help and assistance for the defence personnel.
2. To increase the production of his factory.
3. The intensify efforts for increased production of agricultural and small-scale industrial commodities to make his State self-sufficient.
4. To avoid all possible strikes and lock-outs that may hamper production.
5. To maintain the price level of all essential commodities and curb the tendencies of hoarding and profiteering by conforming to the various Legislative and other popular measures.
6. To maintain the supply lines of essential commodities.
7. To contribute generously in the form of money, gold and kind for the war effort.
8. To inculcate the highest sense of duty and responsibility.
9. To join the various organisations set up for the defence of the country.
10. To prevent anti-social and anti-national activities of the fifth columnists.
11. To observe strict austerity in consumption of food, clothes and other essential goods, and save for the National Defence Fund.
12. To avoid unnecessary travel so that more important and essential movement may not be hampered.
13. To keep up the morale of the people and prepare them for sacrifices.
14. To check rumour-mongering and to disseminate true and faithful news and information.
15. To join or help Citizen's Committee, N.C.C. Territorial Army and Lok Sahayak Sena and Rifle Clubs.
16. To pray for the victory of our Motherland in this struggle and set aside all differences of caste, creed or party.

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MADRAS

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Moments of Glory in the Struggle for Freedom

THE DANDI MARCH

Thirty-three years ago this month Mahatma Gandhi launched the Salt Satyagraha Movement by commencing his epic march from the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad to the sea-side village of Dandi. It took Gandhiji and his party 24 days to cover the 241 miles of the Gujarat countryside to reach Dandi, the dreamy little village on the sea coast in Surat district. Having left Sabarmati on March 12, 1930, he arrived at Dandi on April 5. Early the next morning Gandhiji and his followers defied the Salt Laws.

This article describes vividly some of the scenes and episodes of the historic march and the final breach of the Salt Law at Dandi. While Gandhiji and his party were on the road to the coastal village, the A.I C.C. held its meetings at Ahmedabad on March 21.

Once it had a lighthouse and the Gujarati word for 'lighthouse' is deeva-dandi. This is perhaps how Dandi, which is one of the sea coast of Gujarat, got its name. No one had heard of this little village until the spring of 1930, when it suddenly leapt into the limelight from geographic obscurity.

With Gandhiji's decision to break the Salt Laws in this sea coast village, Dandi came into the headlines as a historic landmark in India's struggle for freedom. Fate conspired to convert this obscure village into nature's laboratory where the sea water, sun and wind manufacture natural salt.

Dandi is 10 miles west of Navsari, which is its nearest railway station in Surat district. On the way from Navsari to Dandi one had to pass the even lesser-known villages of Eru and Aat.

An old factory, near ERU was Gandhiji's last camp before Dandi. The pilgrim's party had reached it on the afternoon of April 4, 1930. Only little beyond was stationed a detachment of armed police, wary and vigilant.

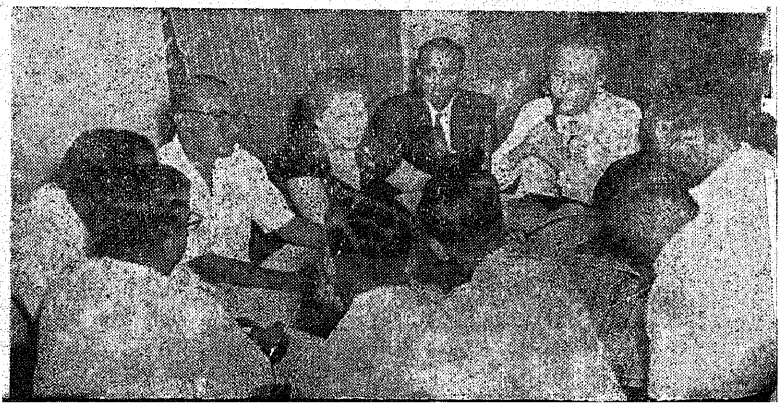
Gandhi and his party had by now tramped nearly 235 miles through the countryside. This had taken 23 days. The march had been strenuous. Many in Gandhi's camp had become weary and footsore. They had walked through many villages in scorching heat and stifling dust on an almost 'iron diet'. They had survived the rigours of the journey. They had stood Gandhi's test. The newspapers called them the "Ironsides."

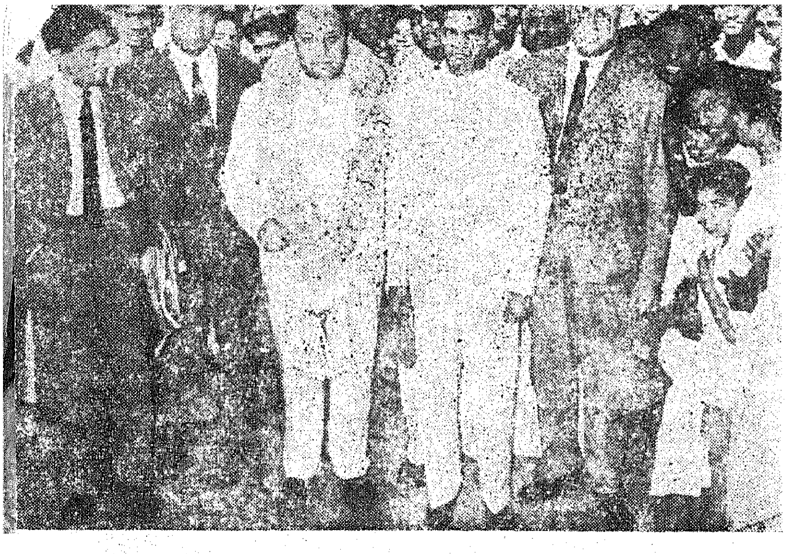
However, they had met with failures also. The gap between initial planning of the tour and actual experience became apparent at Nadiad, after four days of marching. The arrangements of the journey had been left to a batch of students from the GUJARAT VIDYAPITH, the national university founded by the Mahatma at Ahmedabad. The students were to go ahead on bicycles and plan the party's night halts on the way. They also improvised a courier service to keep Gandhijis mobile miniature Ashram in contact with the outside world.

Not all the Ironsides were made of stern mettle. Some of this mettle was brittle. This became apparent as some fell by the wayside. On March 25, the list of invalids added up to 18. Gandhi was obliged to order that sick volunteers be kept in camps on the way.

To balance the disappointments, there were consolations. The march had attracted widespread popular attention and sympathy. From distant Allahabad, Jawaharlal Nehru had waxed eloquent. "The field of battle," he said, dramatically, "lies before you; the flag of India beckons to you, and freedom herself awaits your coming...... Will you be mere lookers-on in this glorious struggle?".

Prof. G. T. G. Catalin and his wife Mrs. Vera Britain who visited the city recently are seen with the Pressmen at the Hotel Oceanic Madras.





The Afghan Press and Cultural delegation visited Madras on 20th January 1963 Sri V. Bhoovarahan, Minister for Information and Publicity welcomed them at the airport.

The villagers of Gujarat, at any rate, required no special prodding. Stirred by Gandhi's simple action, they had flocked to him in their thousands. According to one estimate, two lakhs of people came to greet him on the route, even before he had covered half the distance to Dandi. His spell was magnetic, and it was spreading. It had set the whole placid countryside on fire.

Gandhi addressed a crowded meeting on the dry bed of the Dudhia tank, electrically lit up for the occasion. By the time he reached that place, nearly 200 village officers appointed by the British had resigned.

"I, a Bania.. "

Money contributions seemed ever-available for his campaign, but at one place during his journey, he gently chided the intending donors. "If Swaraj (freedom) could be won by money", he told them, "I, a Bania (a trader by tradition and profession) would have got it long ago. What I want is your personal service in the national cause".

Gandhi had steeled himself to finish the struggle. His friends were most particular that he should go back to Ahmedabad for the WORKING COMMITTEE and A.I.C.C. meetings. He rejected their plea. For him, there was no going back.

On March 21, the A.I.C.C. met in Ahmedabad. Without Gandhi's presence and personal guidance, its members were groping in the dark. Both Motilal Nehru and his son, Jawaharlal, had come there a day earlier. A special messenger awaited them from Gandhi. He informed them that unless they left immediately it would be impossible for him to see them before the A.I.C.C. meeting, as they desired. Although Jawaharlal had spent a sleepless night, travelling in a packed third-class compartment from Agra, he left immediately by a car to cross a tidal river at 2 o'clock in the morning as this was the only time that the river be crossed.

Motilal Nehru, tired and ailing, came later by train to Jambusar where Gandhi had halted. It was here that Motilal decided, in consultation with Gandhi, to make a gift to the nation of his old house in Allahabad. and to rename it Swaraj Bhavan "Abode of Freedom". The value of the house was estimated at the time to be Rs. 2,50,000.

"Pack-up Your Toothbrushes"

Gandhi continued his journey and the Nehrus returned to the A.I.C.C. meeting. The future programme of the Congress was chalked out and decided upon. New directions were to be given to local Congress organisations and Mrs. Sarojini Naidu summed them up by saying that they were to pack-up their toothbrushes for the journey to prison!

Ten days later, Gandhi wrote to Jawaharlal informing him that the coming to Dandi of their "good and true friends from the Frontier" would cause complications. At Dandi, if he were allowed to reach it, he wanted to present only one issue—salt satyagraha—without complications.

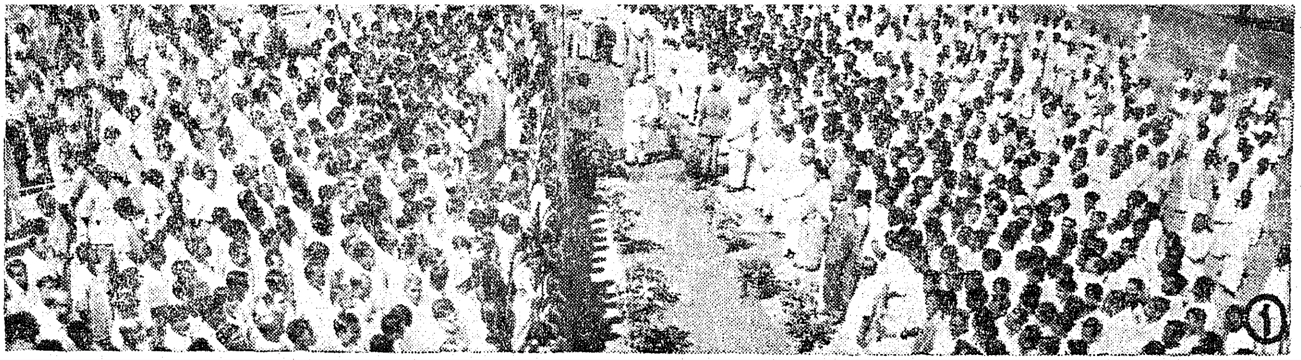
He and his party were allowed to reach Dandi safely on April 5. They put up at a small bungalow, owned by a Mr. Vasi, a merchant from Bombay. The place, overlooking the sea, had the air of an oasis in a marshy barren, gaunt and inhospitable wilderness.

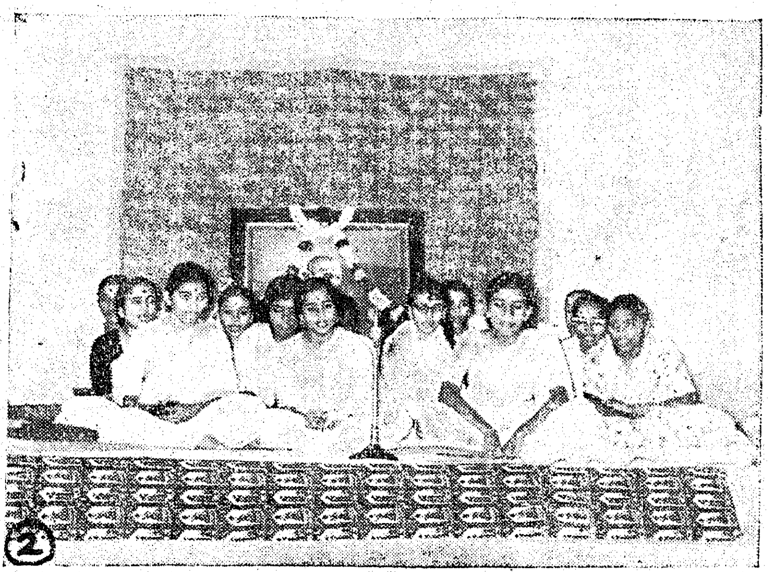
At the stroke of 4 o'clock on the morning of April 6, Gandhi sallied forth from his villa with his followers and repaired to a volunteer's camp, some distance away. He spent more than half an hour here for prayers. After the prayers, Gandhi announced his programme. If he was arrested, he said, Abbas Tyabji, a retired judge of the Baroda High Court, would lead the batch of Satyagrahis and if the latter met the same fate, then Mrs. Naidu would fill the breach.

Crystal of Salt

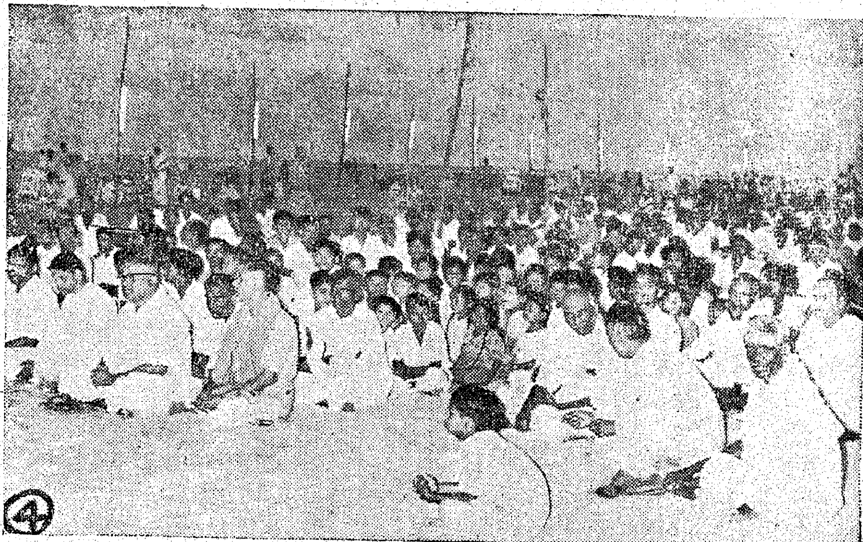
However, nothing happened. At 6-30 a.m. Gandhi, with his volunteers, went to the beach and after a dip, he picked up a mud-coated crystal of salt, deposited on the coast and held it aloft. A thousand visitors and many Government officials watched, as Gandhi and his followers, in a blithesome mood defied the Salt Laws. His action was followed by 200 more of his people. Mrs. Naidu hailed Gandhi has a law-breaker. The signal had been given and the spirit released to set the country into tumultuous motion.

Endless streams of people in buses, bullock-carts and bi-cycles kept pouring into Dandi from dawn throughout the day. In the cool of the evening, while, Gandhi was resting in his camp, some visitors went to the sea-shore. They hovered around the hallowed spot and gazed at the sea. The waters heaved and swelled. The surf leaped as the breakers thundered and the high winds blew. In the dusky sunset the sea had changed its mood. Did it portend anything? The visitors wondered.





SARVODAYA DAY in MADRAS



NATION PAYS HOMAGE TO MARTYRS

On January 30, 1963 the Nation bowed in respectful homage to the Mahatma and the countless martyrs who laid down their lives in the country's struggle for freedom.

The citizens of Madras paid homage to the martyrs by observing two-minute silence and stopping work between 11 A.M. and 11-02 A.M.

Over 10,000 people, drawn from all strata of society, took their meals at the foot of the statue of the Mahatma in Marina.

We will not bow to evil . . .

— President RADHAKRISHNAN

"Our policy is one of peaceful settlement of International disputes though we are obliged to resist aggression when it occurs. Our faith in Ahimsa does not mean cowardly submission to aggression" said Dr. Radhakrishnan in a Broadcast to the Nation on the eve of the 14th Republic Day.

He said "while non-violence does not mean surrender to evil it also requires that we should be ready to negotiate for an honourable settlement if and when opportunity arises. We shall do everything in our power to clear misunderstanding and suspicions with our neighbour without losing patience or hope.

He added, simply because a military conflict had been thrust upon us to our great sorrow "we do not wish to change our basic policies of democratic freedom, social justice and friendship among Nations. The Country will continue to follow a policy of friendship with all Nations and enmity towards none".

The President said that our Government, our economy, our education should keep pace with modern standards of economy, efficiency and rectitude. In a Parliamentary democracy, the State is not an end in itself. It binds men together in a justly ordered social life. Strong public opinion should act itself against attempts to bring democratic processes into disrepute. While we are grateful to the friendly countries which have helped us in working out our plans, ultimately we have to depend on our own efforts. "We are now taking steps to strengthen our defences. This cannot be achieved by mere wishful thinking or pious resolutions. It has to be worked out by an orderly succession of well directed effort and disciplined behaviour", he added.

EXEMPLARY PROGRESS of Madras State

—Governor's Tribute

Glowing tributes to Madras State for its exemplary progress and achievements in various spheres were paid by Sri Bishnuram Medhi, the Governor of Madras while speaking over the All-India Radio on the Republic Day. He said he had been impressed with Madras most because of the preservation of the traditional culture and spiritual heritage and the State's valuable contribution to the enrichment of the common culture of the country.

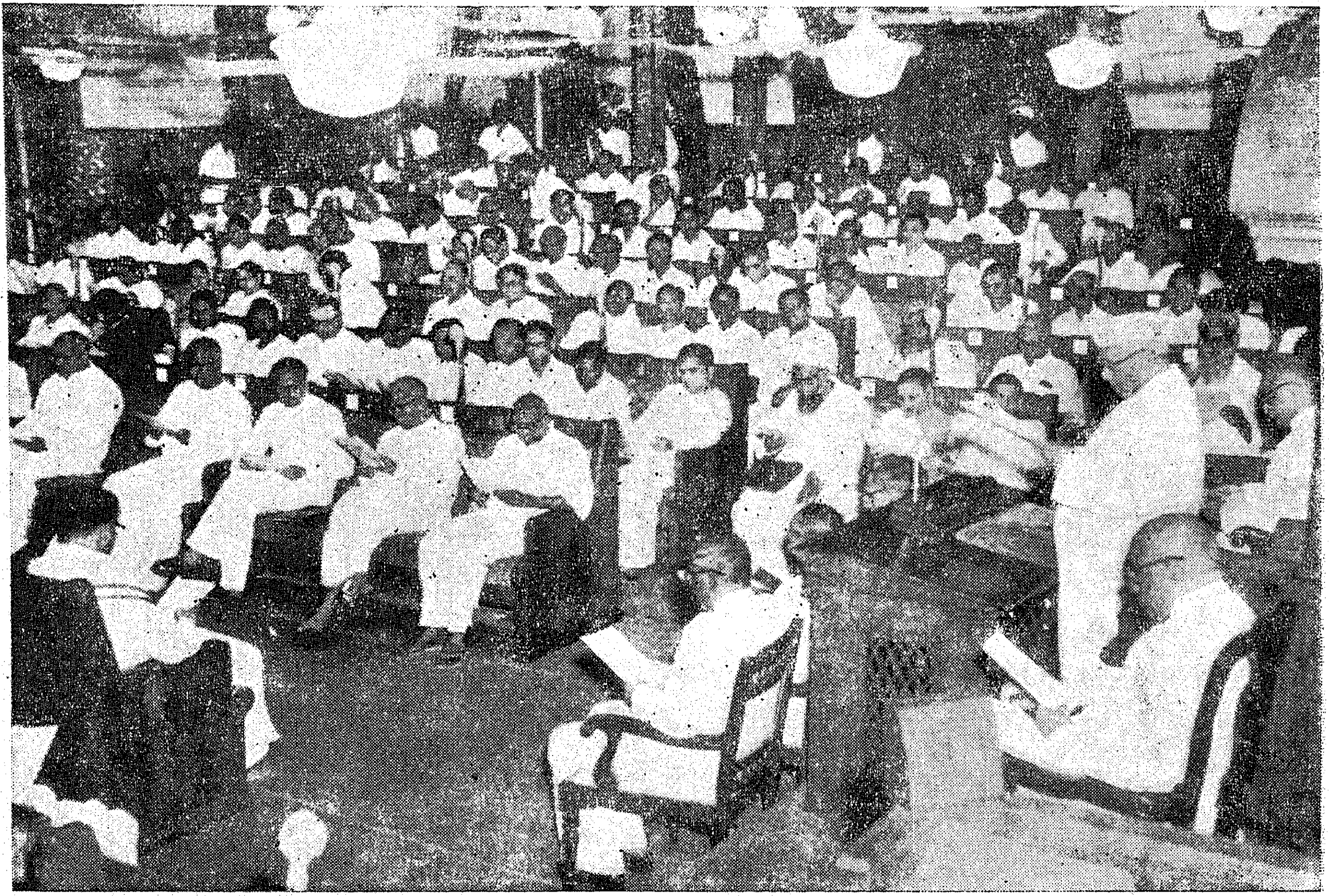
I have great pleasure in speaking to you over the All-India Radio on the Republic Day for the sixth time since my assumption of office as Governor of this State. All of you will be aware that my term has been extended for some time longer and this has made it possible for me to be in the State for this Republic Day also and share my thoughts with you on this auspicious occasion. I am grateful to the President and the Prime Minister for the trust and confidence reposed in me in asking me to continue to place my services at the disposal of the people of Madras for some time more particularly at a time of National Emergency. I am grateful to the people of the State for the affectionate co-operation and goodwill that has been given to me in abundance during the five years of my tenure of office and I am sure I can count upon their continued goodwill, affection and support for the rest of my period of office.

It is indeed a privilege and a pleasure to serve the people of this enlightened State which stands almost as a model to the rest of the country in its progress and achievements in every department of activity. During the long years of my public life, I can say with candour that I have been much impressed with Madras most because of the preservation of the traditional, cultural and spiritual heritage here and the valuable contribution Madras has made for the enrichment of the common culture of our country.

During the year that has passed since my addressing you last, momentous things have happened. It is a matter for congratulation that the Third General Elections were completed successfully in a peaceful atmosphere and this witnessed again the coming into office of the popular Ministry which ensured the continuance of stable Government in our State. Our Five-Year Plan Schemes and projects have proceeded well according to schedule with the co-operation and active support of the people. We have been making steady progress under the successive Five-Year Plans in the matter of harnessing our human and material resources for the common good of the people and for raising their standard of living in our march towards prosperity.

Ultimate Objective

Our efforts have been concentrated on developing our country in every sphere, in improving agricultural production, in establishing new industries, large, medium and small, and in implementing social welfare schemes in the course of our fight against poverty, illiteracy and ill-health. Our ultimate objective is to provide everyone in our country full opportunities for living a reasonably comfortable life and our machinery has been geared up in all ways and means to work for achieving this noble objective. Both in the internal and in the international fields we advocate peace



Sri Bishnuram Medhi, Governor of Madras addressed the Joint Session of Legislature on 28th January 1963

and harmony, mutual understanding and goodwill and peaceful co-existence and uphold the five principles in this behalf in order to promote international friendship and co-operation. Many friendly countries have been helping us with financial and other aid for developing our country and our policy of non-alignment has earned for us respect and admiration in all quarters.

But unfortunately during the closing months of the year 1962, we were surprised and shocked by the massive and unprovoked invasion of our sacred soil in the north by the military forces of China, a country whom we had treated as a friend and to whom we rendered great help at a time when they required most and tried to promote friendly understanding. This aggression threatened the integrity and independence of our country which was won by immense sacrifice of lives and properties by many a known and unknown martyr under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi.

United We Stand

A national emergency was declared and the entire nation took up in an admirable manner the cause of National Defence and strained every nerve to throw out the foreign aggressor. It is a matter of gratification that all groups and sections of the people realised fully the danger and stood together unitedly in ensuring the security of the nation and in doing everything in their power to mobilise the people's efforts for national defence. A State Committee for National Defence Aid and district committees have also been formed. Apart from large collections made for the National Defence Fund, which the people have voluntarily contributed almost every department of public activity has been geared up to meet the challenge and to build up our defence. We must acknowledge with thanks the moral and material help rendered by other nations in support of our cause.

Village Volunteer Force

As part of these efforts, to-day the programme of Village Volunteer Force is being inaugurated. The basic elements of the scheme are the organisation in every Panchayat of a Village Volunteer Force and the formation of a Defence Labour Bank. The task of the Village Volunteer Force will be to organise the rural defence, to work for increased production and educate the masses by disseminating correct information with particular reference to defence efforts. The Defence Labour Bank is designed to supply free labour by able-bodied persons at a minimum rate of one day a month

for the economic development of villages and for stepping up production. Steps are also being taken to organise Home Guards and to expand the scheme of National Cadet Corps. Panchayat Unions and Panchayats are evincing keen interest in strengthening the defence efforts. I am happy that the scheme of democratic decentralisation has been implemented satisfactorily and Panchayats and Panchayat Unions have interested themselves in mobilising local resources for providing basic amenities.

Demonstration of Strength

I would like to stress one point most and that is the country has responded magnificently in the hour of crisis and it is very encouraging to note the sense of unity and cohesion in the land. This demonstration of unity is really the demonstration of our strength and I am sure the aggressors felt disillusioned at this remarkable development and saw to their dismay that their nefarious plan would not work. They withdrew their forces and declared a cease-fire unilaterally and the neutral nations are now working hard to find a common ground for settlement so that the two countries could start negotiations. Whatever be the outcome of these talks, one thing is certain and that is, we have to be ever alert and ever vigilant and ever prepared to sacrifice everything as the price for liberty and for the preservation of our hard-won freedom. We must not relax our efforts to build up the defence of the country or to build up our economy under the Five-Year Plans, in spite of the lull due to the deceptive unilateral cease fire declaration and withdrawal of the Chinese forces. On the other hand taking advantage of the present enthusiasm of the people and the sense of unity and solidarity created amongst them, we have to redouble our efforts to build up our defence potential as quickly as possible, so that no one will dare to trespass into our sacred soil in future.

No Room for Complacency

Let us not be complacent, for complacency gives place to weakness and loss of courage. Mahatma Gandhi has taught us to be courageous and fearless in any event. Thirty three years ago when our country was in bondage we took the independence pledge on 26th January courageously affirming our belief in the inalienable right of the people to freedom. The date is sacred for us in the country's history. Our country became a full fledged Republic on 26th January 1950. The day can appropriately be celebrated by our resolving to be always in a state of preparedness and to be always united so that we may continue uninterrupted our work of implementing the Plan projects for the common welfare of the people. We should redouble our efforts in contributing to the National Defence Fund, in providing amenities for our troops, in saving and investing moneys in Defence Bonds, in volunteering for service in Defence Forces, in stepping up production in agricultural and industries fields, and in offering our co-operation in every way to make the Defence measures a complete success. In this noble effort I invite you, to rededicate yourselves to the service of the nation and to take the pledge anew to make any sacrifice the country might need in view of the massive concentration of military forces and armaments all along our border, threatening our independence and democratic way of life and to put your shoulders to the wheel of progress and share the pride and glory of being citizens of this great Sovereign Democratic Republic.

Mechanised Iron Ore Berth for Madras Port Planned

A new mechanical berth capable of handling three million tons of iron ore annually being planned for Madras Port. It will cost Rs. 2½ crores.

Designs for the mechanised berth have been completed by the engineers of the Port. It will be able to load ore carriers at the rate of 1,600 tons per hour and accommodate vessels up to 35 feet draft. Under the existing facilities Madras Port is able to handle annually about one million tons of iron ore mainly drawn from mines in the Bellary-Hospet Area.

Railway facilities or transportation of the ore to Madras are also being improved simultaneously. The Hospet-Guntakkal stretch, at present served by metre gauge, will also be additionally linked by broad gauge.

Mr. Posthima an internationally famous expert on port development, who visited Madras recently will advise the World Bank on the suitability of the proposed mechanised berth to receive the require financial assistance. The foreign exchange component of the estimated cost of the project is placed at around Rs. 1·4 crores.

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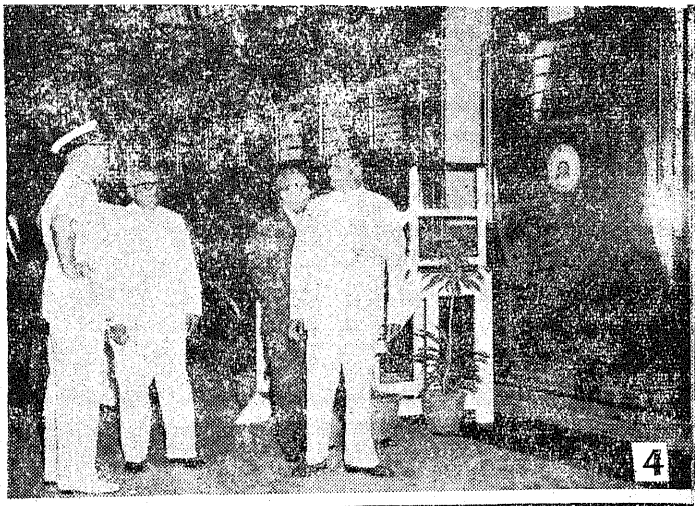
Royal Visitors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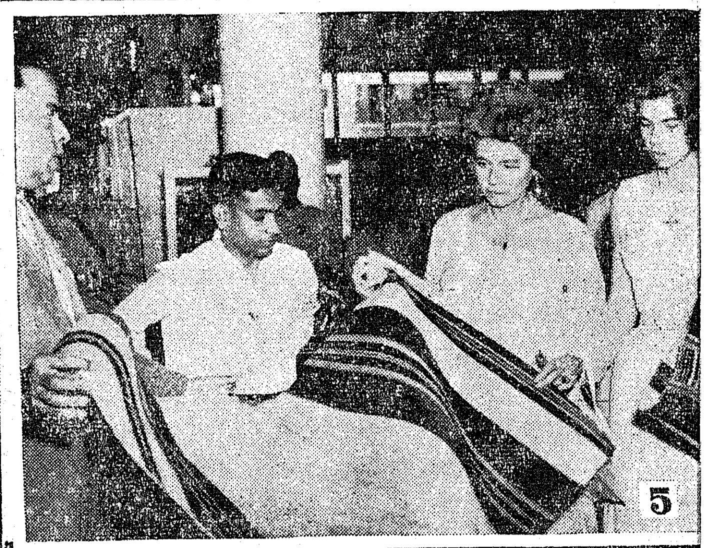
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VISIT OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF GREECE

6

1. Arrival
2. At Kalakshetre
3. At Mahabalipuram
4. At the Integral Coach Factory
5. At Victoria Technical Institute
6, Departure

DEFENCE EFFORT

Impressive Record of Madras State

Madras State has created an impressive record of contribution to Defence Efforts, both in men and material.

Collections for the National Defence Fund had crossed the Rs. 2 crore mark. Even more significant was "the sense of determination and dedication and the feeling of oneness" with which the people had rallied to the call of the country.

The Governor in his address to the Joint Session of Legislature, described the State's response in the National Emergency as magnificent.

Recruiting centres both in the city and in the districts are thronged with candidates for selection to the various wings of the Defence services, and the State has been able to provide a few companies of highly trained police personnel for service with the Government of India to meet the needs of the emergency.

Training in nursing

The Medical Department in spite of the acute shortage of personnel to cater to the needs of the State's population, has shown itself capable of rising to the occasion, and a sizable number of medical men and women have already volunteered for service. The Director of Medical Services drew up a programme for training in First Aid and home nursing, and no less than 2,000 are undergoing training in hospitals and various colleges in the city.

The Engineering services, also inadequately manned judged by the requirements of the various urgent Plan schemes to be carried out, are anxious to play their role in responding to the call of the nation. The number of persons who have volunteered for service at present may not be appreciable, one reason being that the terms and conditions of employment may be in the stage of revision and finalisation to attract them.

On the alert

The State Government, however, has gone ahead in anticipation of the call for these men and has drawn up a list of engineering personnel—as they have done in the case of medical personnel—who have expressed a desire to go for service in the border States. A list of persons available under this category from whom calls could be made is also under preparation.

At short notice, it is learnt, the State has kept itself in readiness to spare a good number of men both for the medical and engineering services.

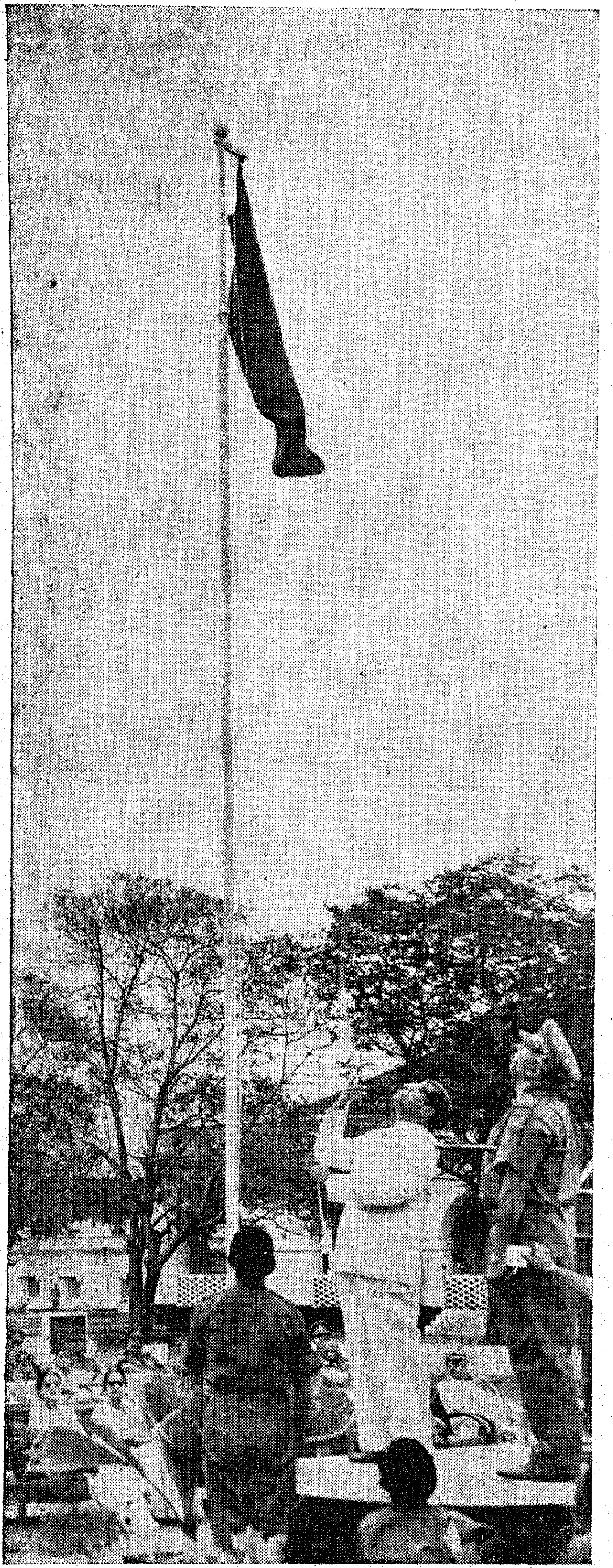
The Governor stressed that until the aggression was completely vacated "we should not relax our vigilance or slacken our defence efforts in spite of the situation

20,000 HOME GUARDS FOR MADRAS.

A voluntary organisation or Home Guards with a strength of 20,000 is to be raised immediately in Madras State in view of the national emergency.

The Home Guards will be given training for 1½ months at the rate of one hour for the first 15 days exclusive of holidays and thereafter for 1½ hours on alternate days for 15 days. Training will include physical training and foot drill, lectures, first aid, fire fighting, rescue work and musketry. Uniforms will be supplied to them, and a small daily allowance will be paid to cover their pocket expenses. The organisation will be as follows. Area Commander, Company Commander, Assistant Platoon Commander, Section Leader, Assistant Section Leader and Home Guards.

All literate persons in all walks of life within the age group of 18-45 are eligible to apply for enlistment. Their applications in the prescribed form, obtainable free from the City Police Office, Egmore, and the District Police Office in the districts, should be sent to the Commissioner of Police in the City and the Superintendent of Police in the districts.



Sri C. Subramaniam, Union Minister for Heavy Industries, inaugurated the Officers' Training School at Lawrence Lines, St. Thomas Mount, Madras on January 15, 1963.

created by the unilateral cease-fire declaration and the withdrawal of forces by the Chinese but should assiduously build up our defence potential to be able to repulse any onslaught on our frontiers ".

Augmenting the Police force

The Governor said it had become necessary to augment the police strength in view of the emergency. The force of Home Guards that was proposed to be raised would be of assistance to the police. The formation of 35 additional N.C.C. rifle companies with 35 officers and 7,000 cadets had been sanctioned.

Two battalions (12 companies) of Malabar Special Police and Special Armed Police of this State had been placed at the disposal of the Union Government and to replace those two battalions of armed police were being raised in this State to form part of " India Reserve " of armed police.

Civil Defence

The need for the implementation of civil defence measures had not yet arisen in this State. However, the Government had plans ready. Training in first-aid and home nursing had been arranged by the Director of Medical Services and a start had been made by training volunteers from Government officers. About 2,000 Government servants were already undergoing this training in Madras City.

Special short-term training courses for drivers, telephone operators, auxiliary midwives and craftsmen had been sanctioned. The names of doctors and engineers who had offered to serve in the border States had been forwarded to the Government of India. Action had been taken to step up recruitment of nurse pupils, pharmacists, laboratory technicians and X-ray technicians.

As in other fields, the national emergency had had its impact on the field of transport. In view of the difficult supply position of chassis for civil requirements and the need to conserve petrol and diesel oil, the Government were reviewing its policy regarding opening of new routes, putting additional buses on existing routes and the grant of variation or extension involving additional consumption of oil, etc.

E.S.I. SCHEME IN MORE PLACES IN MADRAS STATE

The Employees' State Insurance Scheme is being extended to Red Hills area (including Polal, Kathirvedu and Madhavaram), Tiruvanmiyur and Vaniambadi in Madras from the midnight of February 23, 1963. As a result, 2,730 more factory workers will get benefit under the scheme. The families of the insured persons in the area of Vaniambadi will become entitled to medical care thirteen weeks after the date the insured persons have become entitled to medical care.

Madras Home Guards Ordinance

The ordinance which extends to entire State is published in an extraordinary issue of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated January 24.

It is explained that, " consequent on the emergency proclaimed by the President on October 26, 1962, it is considered necessary to provide for constitution of a Home Guard in the State ".

" The Home Guard will be a voluntary body, every member of which will exercise such powers, discharge such duties and perform such functions in relation to the protection of persons, the security of property and the preservation of public order as may be assigned to him ".

The following are among the provisions :

The Government may constitute a volunteer body called the Home Guard, every member of which shall exercise such powers and perform such functions, in relation to the protection of persons, the security of property and the preservation of public order, as may be assigned to him under the ordinance.

Subject to the overall control, of the Inspector-General of Police, the Home Guard shall function under the Commissioner of Police in the City of Madras and the Superintendent of Police in a district.

Any person willing to serve as a member of the Home Guard and possessing necessary qualifications may be appointed a member of the Home Guard.

Every member of the Home Guard shall receive on his appointment a certificate by the competent authority by virute of which the member shall be vested with the powers, functions and privileges of a member of the Home Guard.

Every member of the Home Guard shall receive such training and for such period as may be prescribed.

Period of Service

A member of the Home Guard shall be required to serve the Government for such period as may be prescribed, but any such member may be discharged from the Home Guard at any time on such grounds and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.

It shall not be necessary for such authority to disclose the ground of discharge when such disclosure is not in the public interest.

The Madras Government have published in an extraordinary issue of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, a bill to replace the Home Guards Ordinance promulgated by the Governor on January 24 last. The bill was passed by the Legislative Assembly on February 28, 1963. The constitution of Home Guard has been sanctioned for the City of Madras and the Towns of Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli and Salem, at present.

The Commissioner of Police in the City of Madras and the Superintendent of Police in a district may at any time call out in the prescribed manner any member of the Home Guard for training or for exercising the powers, discharging the duties and performing the functions assigned to him.

A member of the Home Guard, when called out under section 6, shall have the same powers, privileges and protection as an officer of the Police appointed under the Madras City Police Act, or the Madras District Police Act.

No prosecution shall be instituted against a member of the Home Guard in respect of anything done or purporting to be done by him in the exercise of his duties or the performance of his functions as such member, except with the previous sanction.

A member of the Home Guard, when called out under Section 6, in aid of the Police force, shall be under the control of officers of the police in such manner and to such extent as may be prescribed.

Sri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, Governor of Mysore, released a Souvenir on Bharathi at the Sastri Hall, Mylapore on January 20, 1963. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Finance presided.

Every person who for any reason ceases to be a member of the Home Guard shall within ten days, return his certificate of appointment and articles supplied to him as a member of the Home Guard.

Any Officer receiving under sub-section 1 any certificate of appointment, arms, accoutrements, clothing and other articles shall give a receipt for the same to the person delivering them.

Any magistrate and, for special reasons recorded in writing, any police officer not below the rank of a Deputy Commissioner of Police or Assistant or Deputy Superintendent of Police may issue a warrant to search for and seize, wherever they may be found. the certificate, arms, accoutrements, clothing or other articles not delivered up.

Powers for removal

The Commissioner of Police in the City of Madras and the Superintendent of Police in a district may by order in writing suspend or remove from the Home Guard any member of the Home Guard under his control.

(A) Who on being called under section 6, without reasonable cause neglects or refuses (i) to obey such order, or (ii) to exercise the powers, discharge the duties and perform the functions as a member of the Home Guard, or (iii) to obey any lawful order or direction given to him for the exercise of the powers, discharge of the duties and perfomance of the functions as a member of the Home Guard, or

(B) Who is guilty of any breach of discipline or of any misconduct, the Government may make rules to carry out the purposes of this ordinance.

A member of the Home Guard acting under this ordinance shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code.

A member of the Home Guard shall not be disqualified for being chosen as, or for being, a member of the Legislative Assembly or of the Legislative Council by reason only of the fact that he is a member of the Home Guard.

A member of the Home Guard shall not be disqualified for being chosen as or for being a member of any local authority by reason only of the fact that he is a member of the Home Guard.

MADRAS INFORMATION

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I, R. Kulandaivelu, hereby declare that the particulars given above, are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

R. KULANDAIVELU,
Editor and Publisher.

On the Food Front

Minor Irrigation on war footing

Madras is stepping up the pace of execution of minor irrigation schemes as its " most positive contribution " to greater food production and as its " most immediate war effort ". This was announced by the Governor, Mr. Bishnuram Medhi, addressing the Joint Session of the Madras Legislature.

A special circle had been formed to investigate minor irrigation schemes and the additional funds needed would be made available. Side by side, special steps would be taken to desilt and remodel old tanks to increase their irrigation potential.

The future expansion of irrigation could only be through stray medium schemes of local importance.

Improvements to Palar Anicut and the Sathanur Second Stage had been taken up and two more schemes, namely, the Manjalar in Madurai district and Gomukhi Nadhi in South Arcot district had now been sanctioned and would be taken up for execution soon.

The multi-purpose Parambikulam-Aliyar Project was making excellent progress. Out of the eight reservoirs, the Aliyar Reservoir was thrown open for irrigation on 2nd October 1962. to irrigate 7,500 acres. Further areas would be brought under irrigation as and when the reservoirs were completed.

Satisfactory Progress

The various schemes for the development of agriculture including the minor irrigation programme, repairs and renovation of irrigation tanks, and soil conservation schemes are all making satisfactory progress. Against a target of 17-lakh tons of additional production set for the Third Plan, an additional production of 2·04-lakh tons was achieved during the first year of the Plan. The target for the currentyear is 4·85-lakh tons. Intensive efforts are now being made to reach the target by providing necessary services to the ryots and Government are confident of success in this regard.

Fortunately the current season has been a favourable one and a good harvest is expected. It is proposed to

Inauguration of UNESCO Club by Smt. Malcom Adisehiah at Children's Theatre, Madras on January 6, 1963. Sri R. Venkataraman, Minister for Industries, presided.

procure on Central Government account, one lakh tons of rice from the rice-miller of this State on a voluntary basis.

Grow More Vegetables

The Government are also keenly alive to the need for greater production in agriculture as part of the war effort. A scheme for increasing the production of vegetables in and around urban areas has been sanctioned for a period of three years and it is estimated to cost Rs. 13·7 lakhs. The aim is to have an additional production of twenty-thousand tons by the end of the first year of the scheme. Proposals for stepping up the tempo of agricultural development in respect of paddy and short-term crops in select areas are under consideration and will be implemented very shortly.

Cotton and oilseeds are the principal commercial crops requiring accelerated production with a view to conserving and earning foreign exchange. Special schemes for intensifying the production in select areas are also being taken up.

All the plantation schemes undertaken during the Second Plan period are being continued in the Third Five-Year Plan. The important schemes of economic plantations undertaken during the Third Five-Year Plan relate to rubber plantations in Kanyakumari district, bamboo plantations in Coimbatore district and the raising of quick-growing fuel plantations in the districts of Chingleput, South Arcot and North Arcot, with a view to overcoming the shortage in the supply of firewood, especially in the City of Madras. Under the last-mentioned scheme, about 1,000 acres have been taken up for planting during 1962–63, and about 1,000 more acres are proposed to be covered during the year 1963–64.

Milk Project

Further progress has been made in the implementation of the Madras Dairy and Milk Project. Seven units are working at present with a total strength of more than 3,200 cattle in the Milk Colony at Madhavaram. The remaining unit as also the Central Dairy is expected to be opened early this year. Steps are being taken to intensify the procurement of milk from rural areas through the organization of Rural Co-operative Milk Supply Societies, to supplement the milk obtained from the licensees in the colony, for supply in the City. A scheme for the setting up of an integrated dairy at Erode in Coimbatore district for procuring and processing surplus milk in the Erode area, for transport to Madras City through rail tankers and for sale in the City after pasteurization in the Central Dairy under the Madras Dairy and Milk Project has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 33 lakhs.

A scheme for the installation of a pasteurization plant at Madurai in the Co-operative Sector with UNICEF assistance is under active consideration. The scheme is estimated to cost about Rs. 78 lakhs inclusive of the UNICEF aid of about Rs. 31 lakhs.

Sri N. S. S. Manradiyar, Minister for Co-operation, inaugurated the Handloom Exhibition at the Memorial Hall, in the City on January 18, 1963.

Irrigation Figures

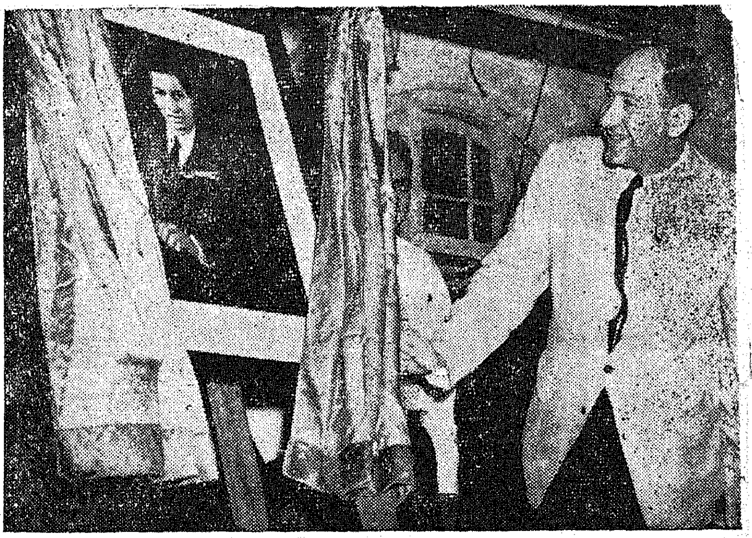
Total land area of State ..	32·19 mil. acres.
Cultivate area in the State ..	14·75 mil. acres.
(a) Total net area irrigated at the beginning of First Plan by all sources.	4·415 mil. acres.
(b) Total net area irrigated at the end of the First Five-Year Plan.	5·190 mil. acres.
(c) Total net area irrigated at the end of the Second Plan.	6·073 mil. acres.
(d) Total area which is expected to be irrigated when the major and medium project proposed under the Third Five-Year Plan are completed.	6·120 mil. acres.
(e) Anticipated extra food production under projects taken up during the First and Second Plans.	2·19-lakh tons of food-grains.
(f) Anticipated extra food production on completion of irrigation projects taken up during the Third Plan.	2·60 tons of foodgrains.
(g) Total investment to end of Second Plan.	Rs. 3,216 lakhs.
Total investment proposed in Third Plan.	Rs. 2,742 lakhs.

Minor Irrigation

Both in First and Second Plans particular emphasis was laid on expansion of minor irrigation facilities. There are 33,000 minor irrigation sources in the State out of which 27,000 are tanks and 6,000 are spring channels. Out of these sources about 30,000 have ayacut of more than 10 acres.

The number of works completed and benefits obtained from the special Minor Irrigation Programme during the two Plans are given below :—

	First Plan.	*Second Plan.*
Cost of the special Minor Irrigation Programme (rupees in lakhs).	290	439
Number of works completed ..	2,458	2,250
New Irrigation in acres ..	32,000	187,600
Old ayacut	430,000	



The First Anniversary of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences was celebrated at the Presidency College on the 14th January 1963. Prof. R. E. Marshak of Rochester is seen in the picture unveiling a portrait of Sri Ramanujam, the Mathematical Genius.

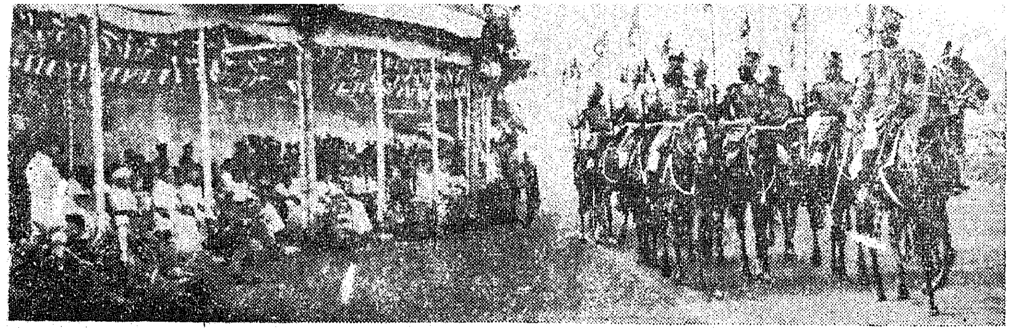
Third Plan provision Rs. (in lakhs) 1,280·00.

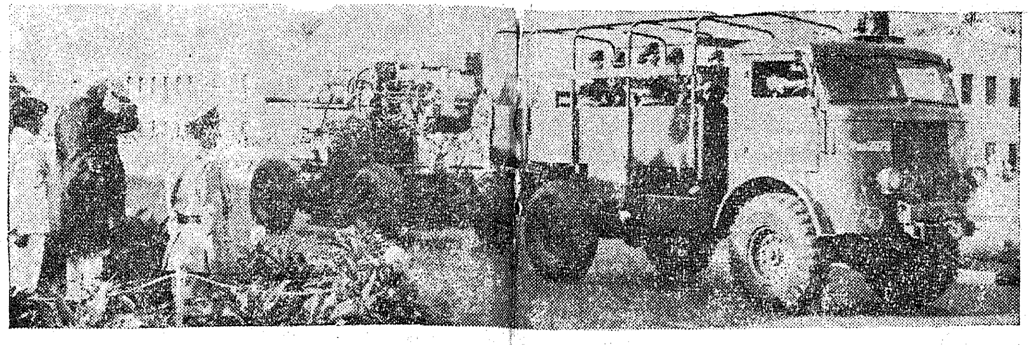
About 5,000 minor irrigation works would need to be renovated during the Third Plan.

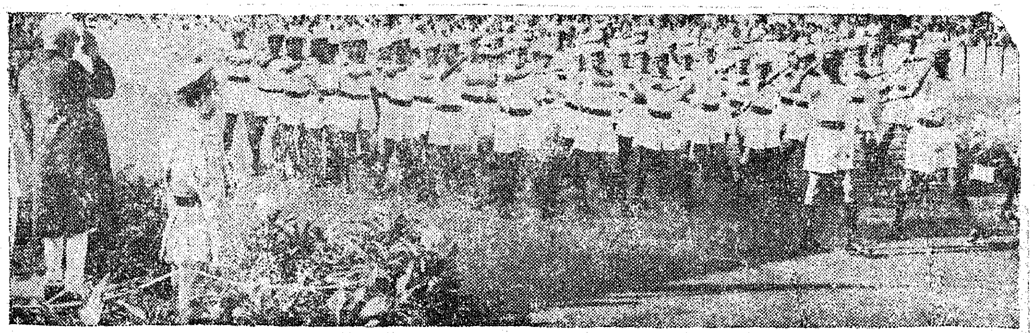
Number of Major Projects (excluding those completed in the First Plan).

Name of Project. (1)	*Date begun.* (2)	*Date for completion.* (3)	*Estimated cost.* (4) (RUPEES IN LAKHS.)	*Area to be benefited.* (5)
Lower Bhavani Project (Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli districts).	January 1949	1955–56	1,020	207,000
Mettur Canals Scheme (Salem and Coimbatore districts).	Do. ..	1957	192·91	45,000
Manimuthar Reservoir Project (Tirunelveli .. district).	November 1950.. ..	1958	506	20,000 (New) 83,000 (Existing)
Araniar Reservoir Project (Chingleput district) ..	July 1951	1958	105·89	Nil. 6,066 (Existing)
Amaravathi Reservoir Project (Coimbatore district).	December 1953	1958	329·76	21,500 (New) 32,000 (Existing)
Vaigai Reservoir (Madurai district)	April 1954	1959	330	22,818
Sathanur Reservoir Project (North Arcot and South Arcot districts).	October 1954	1957	258	21,000
Krishnagiri Reservoir Project (Salem district) ..	December 1954	1957	202·43	9,000
New Kattalai High Level Canal	August 1957	1959	224·58	20,622
Pullambadi Canal Scheme	Do.	1959	206·06	22,114
Vidur Reservoir Project	December 1957	1960	88·94	3,200
Neyyar II Stage	July 1958	In progress.	90	9,200
Parambikulam-Aliyar Project	November 1958 ..	In progress.	3,508	240,000
Improvements to Palar Anicut and Channels ..	November 1961 ..	In progress.	48·10	3,285
Sathanur Project II Stage	Do. ..	In progress.	58·00	5,000 (II crop.)

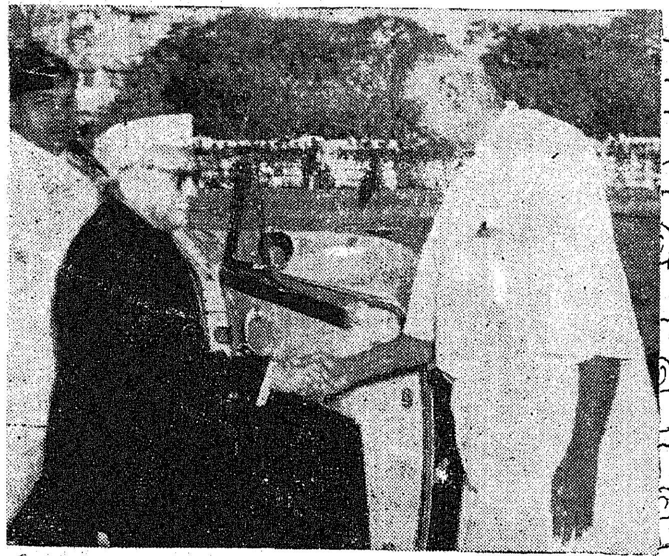
(Seven more medium schemes are under consideration for being taken up during the Third Five-Year Plan).

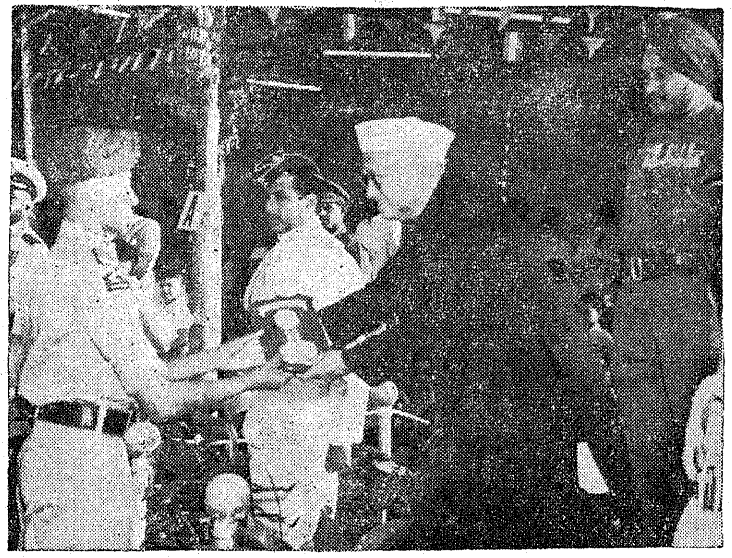






Republic day Celebrations





Middle rows :

The Governor is received by] the Chief Minister. N.C.C. Cadets receiving the shields from the Governor.

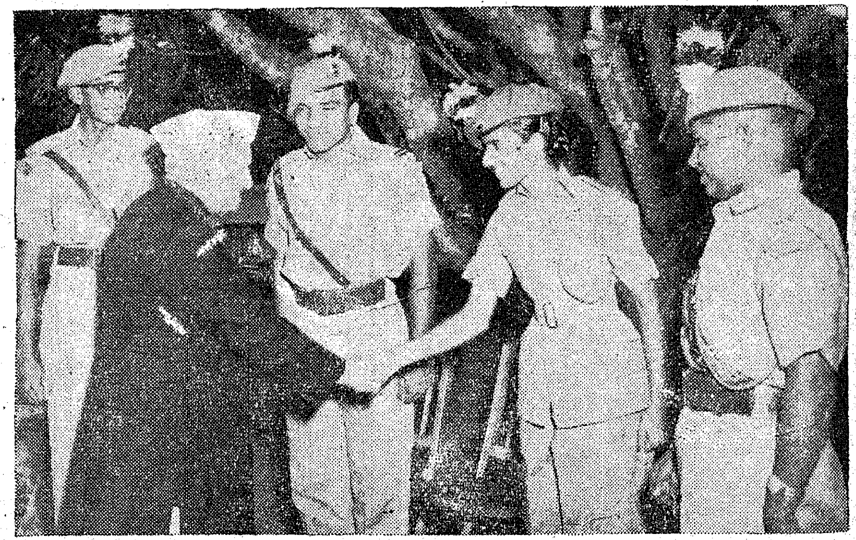
'Bharathamata' at the Students rally.

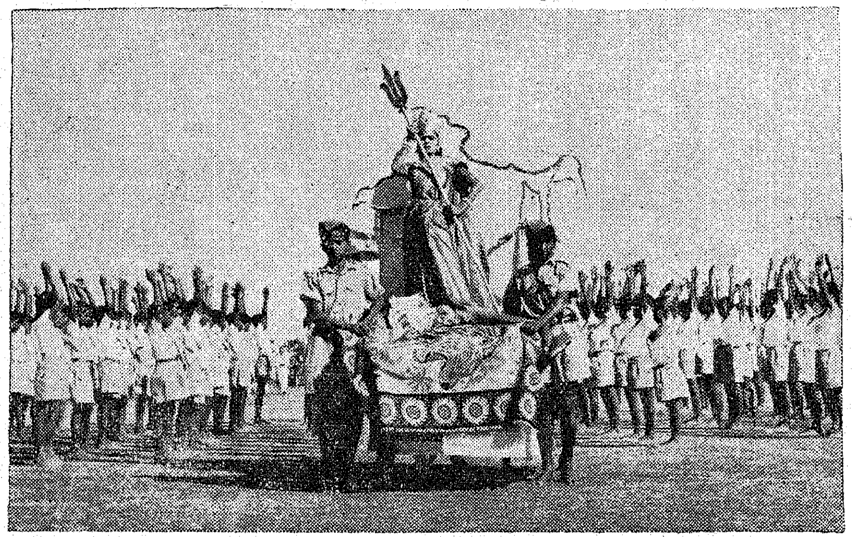
Top row :

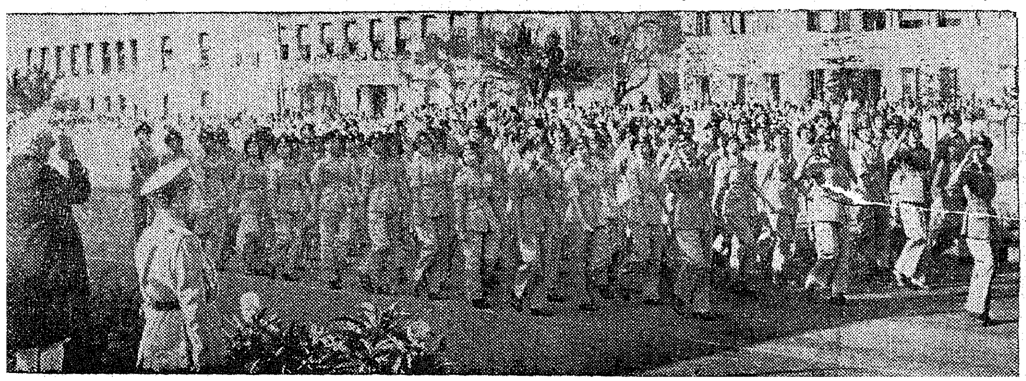
Republic day parade cavalry, Armed Cars, N.C.C. Cadets.

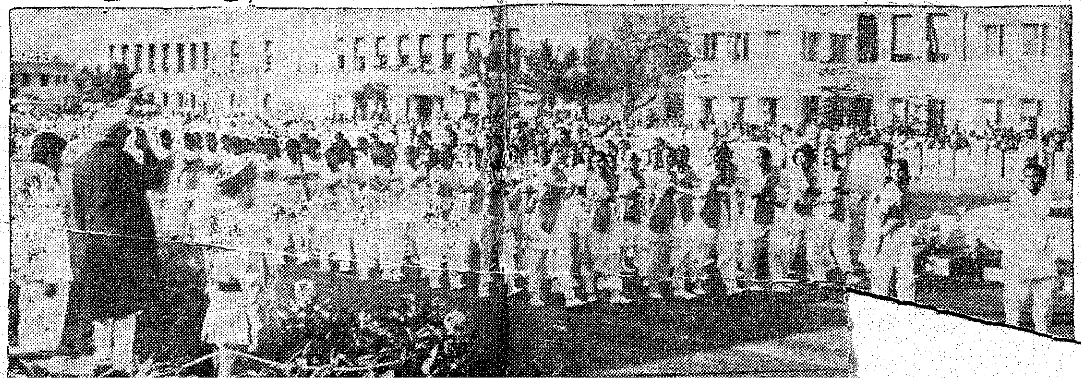
Bottom row :

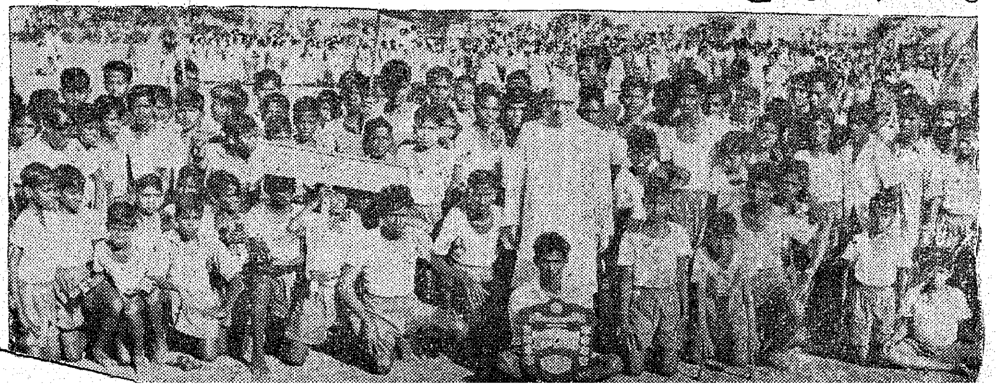
A.C.C.; N.C.C. Cadets. The Governor is seen with Children at the rally.









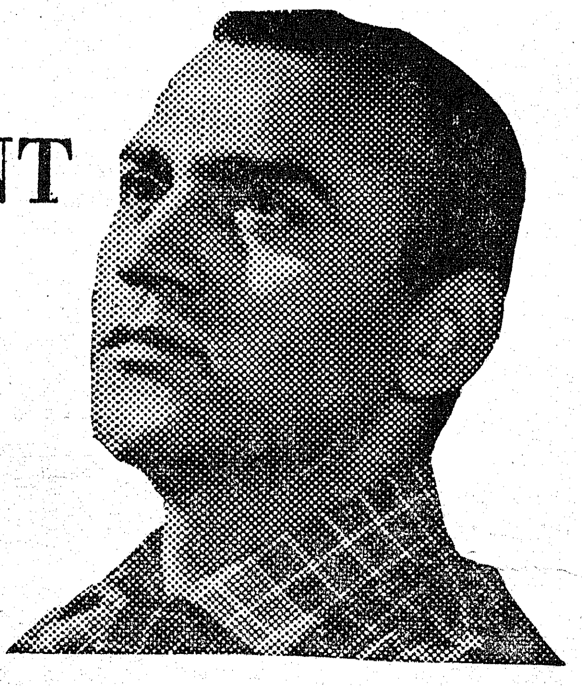


Now is the time to re-affirm our resolve

To-day let us re-affirm our resolve to resist the aggressor. Do not slacken vigilance and determination—for **this is your war.** Take action **now.** Volunteer to serve in the National Service Organisations. • Wage war on waste and cut all unnecessary expenditure • Food and clothing are valuable. Do not waste them • Time is precious too. Measure it not in terms of hours spent, but by what you accomplish • Shoulder your responsibilities. Act with discipline in all things, at all times.

BE VIGILANT

take part in national preparedness



village volunteer force

SRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

The Village Volunteer Force Scheme, intended to mobilise the human and material resources of the rural communities all over India, was formally inaugurated on the Republic Day when Prime Minister gave a broadcast to the nation explaining the crucial significance of the scheme in the present context.

The Scheme has emerged as a response to the challenge of history implied in the aggression on our northern borders. But, in addition to mobilising production to support the defence effort, it will help in building up the basic strength of the nation. Five lakh able-bodied men and women of Madras State will be enrolled in the Village Volunteer Force.

Inaugurating this scheme in a nationwide broadcast the Prime Minister said that every able-bodied adult in the five and a half lakh villages should consider himself a volunteer to serve his village and nation.

In a nationwide broadcast on the 26th January inaugurating the Village Volunteer Force, the Prime Minister said :

Today is an auspicious day, the anniversary of the formation of our Republic. We celebrate Independence day on the 15th August. That is a great day for us. But on the 26th January we completed that process of Independence by establishing the Republic of India.

That completed our political revolution, and we applied ourselves to the next great task, namely, the economic and social revolution of the Indian people. We started Five-Year Plans for this purpose, and now we are in the middle of the Third Five-Year Plan.

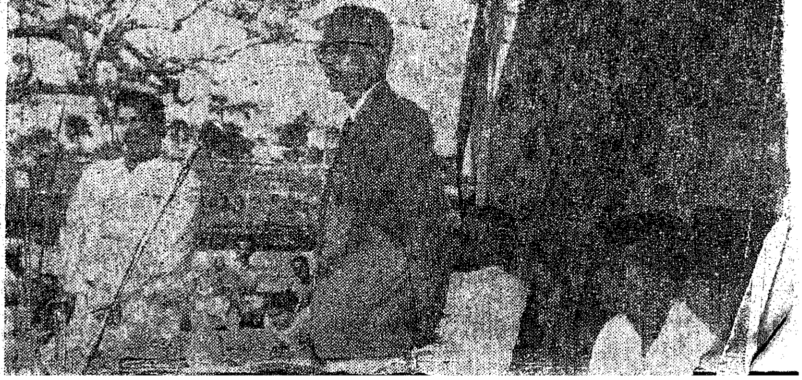
Progress on all lines

We wanted to progress on all lines, both agricultural and industrial as well as in regard to education and health. We wanted everyone in India to progress and establish a Welfare State for all. But, as we all know, the great majority of our population lives in the villages of India, and it is their progress and welfare that is most important for our country.

To help them, therefore, we started many years ago the Community Development programme, and now this scheme has spread almost to all our villages. It woke up rural India, and the people there began to stir. Much good was done by this programme. But it also showed our failings.

Another great step was then taken by the establishment of Panchayat Raj, to give the people of the villages a large amount of control of their own affairs. Instead

Village Volunteer Force was inaugurated by Sri S. K. Chettur, I.C.S., Chief Secretary in the Palavanthangal Village near St. Thomas Mount on 26th January 1963.



Best N.C.C. Cadets in All-India—Both from Madras

Shri Bishnuram Medhi, Governor of Madras, on the Republic Day awarded special trophies to two N.C.C. Cadets from Madras State, who have achieved the unique distinction of being adjudged the best Cadets in all India, in the Senior and Junior Divisions respectively, at the All-India N.C.C. Rally held in Delhi last year.

The two Cadets are: Senior Under Officer M. Saleem Sheriff and Leading Flight Cadet Suresh Bangara.

S/U/O Saleem Sheriff, from Loyola College, Madras, has served in the N.C.C. for six years, passed the 'B' and 'C' Certificates, and reached the highest rank of Cadet Adjutant Senior Under Officer. He commended and led N.C.C. contingents from all over India at the last Republic Day Parade in Delhi, and was awarded the All-India Best Cadet Trophy by the Prime Minister. After graduation, he has now been selected for admission to the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun, to undergo training for a Permanent Regular Commission in the Army.

L/F/C Suresh Bangara, formerly of Mani's High School, Coimbatore, has served for one year in the Auxiliary Cadet Corps and three years in the N.C.C. (Junior Division) Air Wing, where he reached the rank of Surgeant. He has shown special proficiency in Aero-Modelling, and was adjudged the best Junior Division Cadet in all India at the N.C.C. Rally held in Delhi last year. He has now joined the Loyola College, Madras, where he has soon reached the rank of Leading Flight Cadet in the N.C.C. (Senior Division) Air Wing. He hopes to join the Indian Air Force shortly.

of big officers controlling them, the Panchayats got the power and the resources. Panchayat Raj has now been established in most of the States of India, and the remaining States will follow soon.

Along with the Panchayat Raj, there is the movement for Co-operation (Sahkari Samaj). This is meant to democratise our economy and to provide economic support to the vast mass of our people. Panchayat Raj and Sahkari Samaj will not only bring political but also economic democracy to the village and will make the people there self-reliant and strong.

Struggle remains

During the last three or four months, we have had to face a great crisis, because our neighbour, China, has attacked, us and invaded our territory. Our people all over India, in villages and towns, have faced this challenge bravely, because it is a challenge not only to our freedom but also to our well-being, our culture and our ideal of democratic life. We have before us a great struggle. Whether the fighting on our frontier goes on or not, the struggle is with us, and we have all to do our utmost to help in this struggle.

Our Five-Year Plan aimed at development of our country and our people. It is now to be so fashioned as to be especially helpful in the defence of our country. But this will not mean that we will cut down our develoment schemes, because that will weaken us and be bad for our people. We have, therefore, to bear this double burden of defence and development. I am sure we shall all do so and come out of this struggle triumphant.

What are our villages and the mighty rural population that lives there, to do in these circumstances? Rural India feeds our nation, including the Army and the other defence forces. It provides strength to our nation. It gives us our brave soldiers. Rural India, therefore, must organise itself for this great effort.

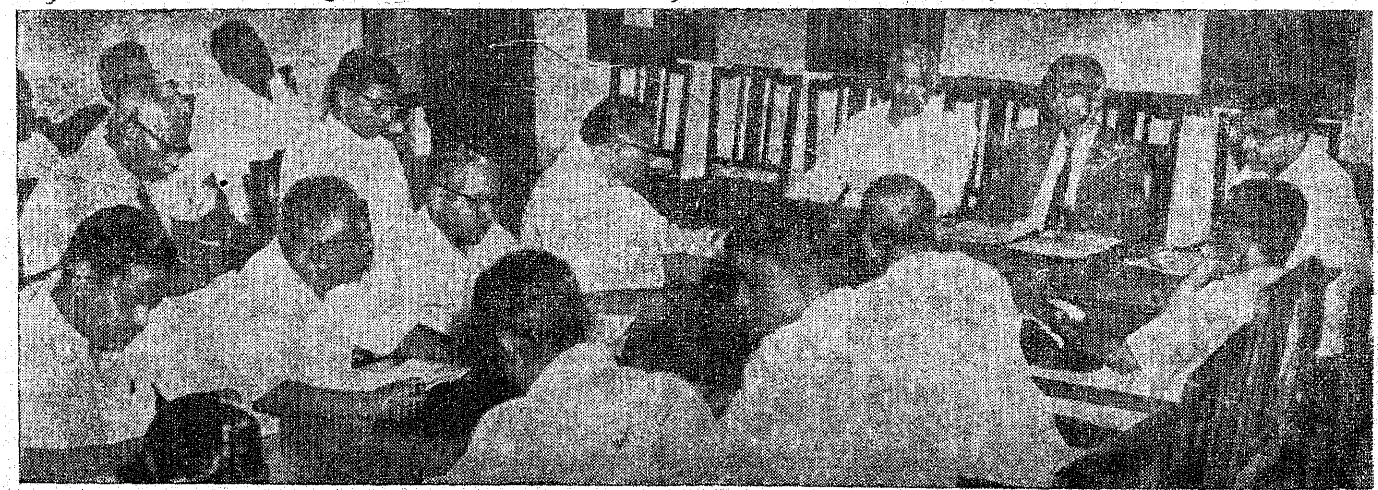
We have now decided to have in every village a Village Volunteer Force which will devote itself to this great task. Every able-bodied adult in the five and a half lakh villages of India should constitute himself a volunteer to serve his village and the nation.

The three tasks

The Volunteer Force in every village will have three tasks : more production, education and defence.

Defence not only is the work of our brave soldiers at the front, but it means increasing our production greatly. In order to do this, we have to use new methods in agriculture which will increase our production. We must have minor irrigation works, field channels, soil conservation and dry farming. This will create community assets in the village, which will raise the standard of the people there and give them a recurring source of revenue for the Panchayats for development. We should grow not only cereals, but also vegetables and fruits.

Education is very important. The Village Volunteer Force will help in educating others and will also take up the work of giving correct information and better understanding of our great struggle. The radio and other methods will be used for this purpose. It is important that all people should know what is going on in the country and especially in our struggle for freedom and economic development.



Sri S. K. Chettur, I.C.S., Chief Secretary held a press conference at the Committee room to explain the scheme of Village Volunteer Force on the Republic Day.

Thirdly, the Village Volunteer Force will look after village defence. They will look after railways, roads, posts and telegraphs, and they will help in keeping law and order in the village.

Defence Labour Banks

Labour creates money, Trained labour creates more resources. Each village must have a plan of development which will assure the needs of life to every family. We want to have Defence Labour Banks all over India. If everyone contributes a minimum of twelve days' labour per year to this Bank, this will be of great benefit to the village and to the country. Thus, if twenty crore adults in the rural sector work in this way, they will produce assets of three hundred crores of rupees a year for themselves.

In every village, people must look after those who require help. Children must be especially looked after and others who may be without work or are disabled. Every village must take pride in the fact that every one there is looked after properly. We must consider the village as a big family where each person helps the others. In this way, the whole country can be considered a large family in which people of all religions who live here, are members.

Thus, we shall build up happy and prosperous villages and every fellow country man of ours will be cared for and will add to the wealth of the village and the country We have to preserve our freedom and people's Raj and make this a large co-operative enterprise.

IN MADRAS STATE

The Village Volunteer Force was inaugurated in Madras State on January 26, 1963. Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister in a broadcast message emphasised the special significance of the scheme and stressed the need of stepping up agricultural production. The Chief Minister's broadcast and the Prime Minister's inaugural speech on the occasion were listened to by the villagers in almost all 12,900 Panchayats of the State, where community radio sets have already been installed.

DETAILS OF THE SCHEME

The Village Volunteer Force will have a three-fold programme, viz., Production, Mass Education and Village Defence.

Instructions have been issued that in forming these units it will be desirable if all the volunteers who have experience of agriculture are grouped together in the unit of production, all the volunteers who are educated and improved about current events in the unit of Mass Education and all the volunteers who are young and healthy of the age group 21–40 in the unit for Village Defence.

The Unit for Production should concentrate on production and building of local community assets like development of panchayat vested and entrusted lands, compost and local manurial resources, vegetables and fruit cultivation, village plantations, pisiculture, poultry, village tanks and other rural works. It will be the responsibility of the unit for production in every panchyat to ensure that the panchayat fulfils its share of responsibility in the implementation of the programme fixed for it under the Village Agricultural Production Plan as well as under the Panchayat Union Agricultural Grant Allocation Plan. An essential part of the programme will be planned utilization of people's contribution of labour through the Shramdan.

The unit for mass education

The unit for Mass Education should make all necessary arrangements for the dissemination of correct information about the war and the defence effort, through various media for the effective use of publicity material and other literature for prevention of spread of rumours and in general, for the maintenance of morale. The Block Information Centres, Social Education Centres, Adult Literary Centres, Village Libraries, Radio Rural Forums should be made use of by the Village Volunteer Force to disseminate correct information. The teachers or educated young men living in the villages can become members of the unit for Mass Education whose responsibility will be to convene listening groups in villages, explain to the people, the background to the conflict with the Chinese the details of the aggression on our borders and the values which our country seeks to uphold.

The unit for village defence

The unit for Village Defence should attend to the watch and ward duties; fire prevention, first-aid, safe, guarding of lines of communications. A simple programme of physical training will be adopted for the unit for Village Defence, viz., Village Defence, physical training and mass drill, first-aid and sanitation, etc.

(2) The women's organizations and women welfare committees at the panchayat level will have an important role to play in the scheme of Village Volunteer Force. They have to work after the welfare of the families of the jawans can disseminate correct information among village women, can work for the promotion of savings and organize village women into working groups for production of simple articles needed for the Army.

Organization

(i) *Panchayat Level.*—The panchayat will organize and guide the Village Volunteer Force. The Village Volunteer Force itself will be under the charge of a Chief Volunteer. The President of the panchayat will be the Chief Volunteer.

(ii) *Block Level.*—At the Block Level the Panchayat Union Council will assume full responsibilities for all the activities connected with the defence effort, Providing an effective link between the Village Volunteer Force in the different panchayats. A co-ordination committee will be constituted at the Panchayat Union Council level consisting of select Chief Volunteers at the rate of one from each Gramsevak circle and the members of the General Purpose Committee of the Panchayat Union. The Chairman of the Panchayat Union Council will be the Chairman of this Committee and the Commissioner will be the Secretary of this Committee.

(iii) *District Level.*—The District Development Council will assume responsibility for the effective co-ordination of the work of the Village Volunteer Force. The General Purpose Standing Committee of the District Development Council will be utilized for this purpose. Other Government Departments and non-official organizations connected with the Civil Defence effort at the District Level should to the extent necessary be given representation in the General Purpose Standing Committee. At the State Level the Chief Secretary will assume specific responsibility for co-ordination and implementing the scheme. He will be assisted in this task by the Additional Development Commissioner.

(iv) *State Level.*—At State level the Emergency Committee of the Cabinet with the Chief Minister as the Chairman, the Minister Finance and Minister Industries will be in charge of the implementation of the Village Volunteer Force.

(3) A common insignia has been prescribed for all members of the Village Volunteer Force which make them feel one in their common task. The badge is in circular shape with a map of India and the National Flag at the Centre. The words Village Volunteer Force and Jai Hind (in Tamil) are printed in the middle. The badges are made in white Khadi cloth with green border. The cost of each badge is 25 nP. The panchayats have been instructed to purchase the required number of badges from their own funds.

(4) The Village Volunteer Force Scheme of this Government has been translated into Tamil. Fifty thousand copies of the scheme in Tamil have been printed and have been distributed to all the panchayats in the State.

Peacock chosen as India's National Bird

The Government of India have decided to designate the peacock (Pavo Cristatus) as the national bird of India. The decision has been taken after considering the views of the State Governments and the opinions expressed in the Press.

The question of selecting a national bird has been under consideration since Tokyo Conference of the International Council for Bird Preservation held in May 1960. The conference had recommended that each country should formally designate a special bird as its national bird in order to focus public attention on the question of preservation of wild life in general and birds in particular. The matter was later taken up by the Indian Board for Wild Life and the State Governments weie also asked to give their views. Some of the other birds considered for the honour were the great Indian bustard, the sarus crane the *garuda* (Bramminy Kite) and the swan (*hansa*), the strongest contender being the gieat Indian bustard.

Burma has another variety of peacock known as green peafowl (Pavo Muticus Speciferous) as her national bird.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Programmes in Panchayats

V. KARTIKEYAN, I.A.S., *Director of Agriculture, Madras.*

It is but appropriate now to talk about Agricultural Production Programmes in Panchayat Villages. In the context of the present National Emergency arising out of Sino-Indian conflict it is necessary not only to increase agricultural production as already programmed under the Third Five-Year Plan but to step it up further to meet the needs of the present emergency. In this the role of panchayats is very definite and decisive.

Under the Panchayats Act of 1958, after the constitution of Panchayats and Panchayat Unions, all measures relating to the development of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Village Industries, are to be entrusted to Panchayats and Panchayat Unions. This has been done in stages from 1st October 1960.

There are over 12,522 Panchayats in 373 Unions covering all the rural areas in the State. Almost all Panchayats have prepared Village Production Plans and begun to implement them. The Village Production Plan consists essentially of two schemes.

A High level Study Committee on Panchayat Raj under the Chairmanship of Sri K. Santhanam, M.P. met the Chief Minister and other members in the cabinet room on 26th January 1963.

Manurial resources

One deals with development of local manurial resources. It is well known that cattle manure is in short supply, the existing availability being one-third of normal requirements for manuring crops. This has to be made good by preparing compost manure by a simple process from waste organic matter available in villages. Also green manure crops have to be raised wherever possible and used as manure. Green leaf yielding trees are to be planted in all waste lands and poramboke. Besides the use of tank silt and other locally available manures has to be increased. By all these measures the local manures for use have to be increased to 12 cart-loads of organic manure for every acre of irrigated land, and six cart loads for rainfed land, in the course of three years. Commercial crops under irrigation would require twice this quantity.

Improved seeds

The second scheme is to multiply and distribute improved seeds of paddy and millets in villages. The

Agricultural Department have evolved several improved varieties and strains of paddy and millets which yield 10 to 15 per cent more than local varieties. Small quantities of primary seeds are available and these are to be multiplied in every Panchayat Villages in the holdings of selected farmers called Gramasahayaks.

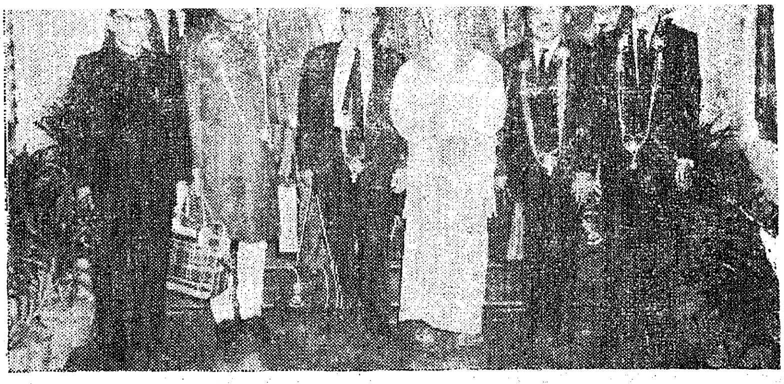
The seeds so multiplied are distributed to other cultivators in the village to cover one-third of the cropped area, annually, and to renew seeds every three years, in order to keep up the vigour and yielding capacity of crops.

The Plans also include schemes for protection of crops against pests and diseases, demonstration in improved agricultural practices, supply of improved implements and such other better farming methods as are necessary and suitable for different panchayats. By adopting these better farming methods in a planned manner, it will be possible to achieve an increase in agricultural production of 10 to 15 per cent or more, in the course of three years.

Agricultural grants

To enable Panchayats to implement the Agricultural Production Plans, the State Government have made available to them, necessary finance in the shape of agricultural grants to the tune of Rs. 2 lakhs for a five-year period for each Panchayat Union and permitted them to raise a matching contribution of Rs. 50,000 from panchayats. The panchayats may levy a tax on agricultural land as needed.

Out of this grant, one lakh is set apart for expenditure by panchayats in raising panchayat plantations of fuel, green leaf, fodder and fruits promotion of composting of village waste organic matter, promotion of green manure for seeds or manure, provision of plant protection and demonstration equipment and for any other purpose. The panchayats have to contribute one-third of the tota expenditure. The balance of one lakh of the agricultural grants is to be used for maintenance of Gramasahayak service by payment of Rs. 2 per maund of seed produced and distributed, distribution of improved implements and plant protection equipment, vegetable eeds and fruit plants at half cost, green manure seeds at 15 per cent concession in cost and pestiscide at 25 per cent concession in cost, compost pits dug and filled at Rs. 6 per pit. The distribution to beneficiaries is done with the knowledge and approval of panchayats. The grants could also be used for demonstration equipment at Union Headquarters and Gramasevak's Centres and for laying out Demonstration plots and farms, to educate the farmers in improved agricultural techniques, developed through utilisation agricul tural research from time to time



The cultural delegation from Malaya and Singapore paid a vist to Madras on 17th January, 1963.

The first, second and third batch unions have already begun to function from 1960–61 onwards. As already stated Village Production Plans have been prepared for most panchayats in the State and the agricultural grants have also been allocated for the different schemes. It will be of interest to know that during 1961–62 very good progress has been made in the utilisation of porombokes for developing panchayat plantation which is a community asset. Over 3,811 acres of panchayat plantations at a cost of Rs. 4,66,264 were developed in 1961–62 in 340 unions, 6,750 compost pits were dug, 122 tons of green manure seeds were produced, 5,720 sprayers and 708 dusters and 2,412 improved implements were acquired by panchayats. The total expenditure under matching grant amount to Rs. 12·38 lakhs. In 1961–62 Gramasahayak service was only partially organised due to formation of unions in different stages. The distribution of vegetable seeds, fruit plants, green manures, sprayers and dusters improved agricultural implements, compost pits, pesticides, to individuals at concession amounted to Rs. 9,47,684. The grant expenditure on demonstration equipment to Union Headquarters and Gramasahayak Centres, demonstration plots and farms amount to Rs. 7,48,973. The total expenditure from Agricultural grants in 1961–62 amount to Rs. 28 lakhs for 340 unions. This can be considered very satisfactory as finances were made available about the middle of the year and unions were formed in three stages and panchayats had to get acquainted to in drawing up village plans and agricultural grants allocation plan.

Soil conservation scheme

The Soil Conservation Scheme for contour bunding was entrusted, as a trial measure to seven panchayats in Salem and Coimbatore districts for execution with local resources of men and material. Technical advice is only provided by the State. The response and progress of work so far has not been very encouraging but it is hoped that the panchayats concerned will take more interest and carry out the work in the coming dry months after the standing crops are harvested. However the programme for 1962–63 have been formulated,

The Fishermen of Altapalayam, Royapuram weighed the Minister for Co-operation against fish. The amount realised by the auction of fish along with the income from the day's catch (Rs. 302 in all) was handed over to the Minister.

by all unions to utilise about one-fifth of the tota grant allocated to them. There are already indications of great activity and enthusiasm among panchayats, to implement the agricultural programmes entrusted to them and there is every hope that they would fulfil the expectations of Government in this respect.

I wish to pin point attention on Gramasahayak service in 1962–63. This service has been initiated in all unions in the State during 1962–63 and secondary paddy seeds of good quality will be available during January-February 1963 for covering about 1/3rd the area of food crops in 1963–64 season. Several Gramasahayaks complain that they lack storage space and other State, that they cannot hold stocks for long periods as they want ready money to meet their urgent needs. Most beneficiaries are not prepared to take over seeds immediately after harvest for want of ready cash. The Government have, therefore, issued orders on an arrangement whereby Co-operative Credit Societies in the State offer the necessary credit to needy ryots to purchase seeds from Gramasahayaks within a month after harvest. This is being made known to panchayats and farmers, and meetings will be held in the coming month by Extension Personnel in Panchayats to settle the persons who require seeds, to assess the quantity of seeds needed by each farmer and also the credit necessary to buy the seeds. This will enable farmers to get their seeds required from Gramasahayaks and payment will be made by Local Co-operative Credit Societies to Gramasahayaks on their behalf. This way the problem of Gramasahayaks and farmers is expected to be solved, in respect of improved seed supply. In successfully implementing this programme lies the capacity of Panchayats to manage their own affairs.

Production of Vegetables

I only wish to add that besides fulfilling the agricultural programmes entrusted to them, the Panchayats and Panchayat Unions will rise up to the present occasion and play their part in increasing production of vegetables growing pulses as blackgram, greengram, etc., after rice with the residuary moisture in soils, raising short term crops with water available from local irrigation sources in the ensuing summer months and take active part and enlist the co-operation and active participation of all farmers, in all schemes of agricultural development sponsored by the State in this National Emergency and thus help to win the war.

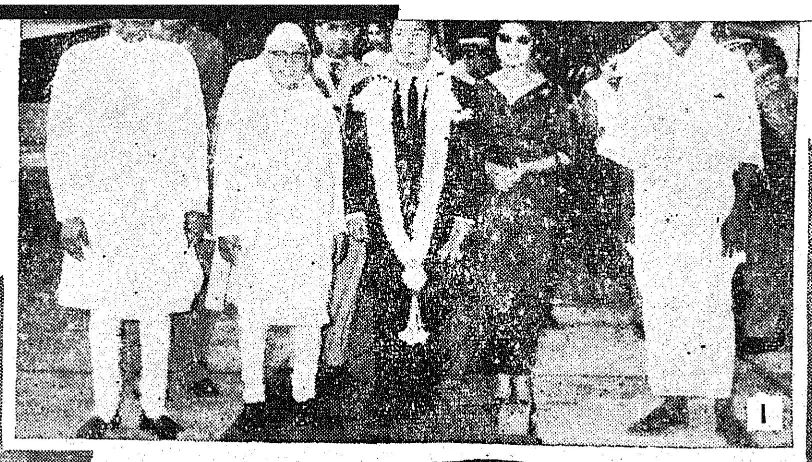
Courtesy, A. I. R.

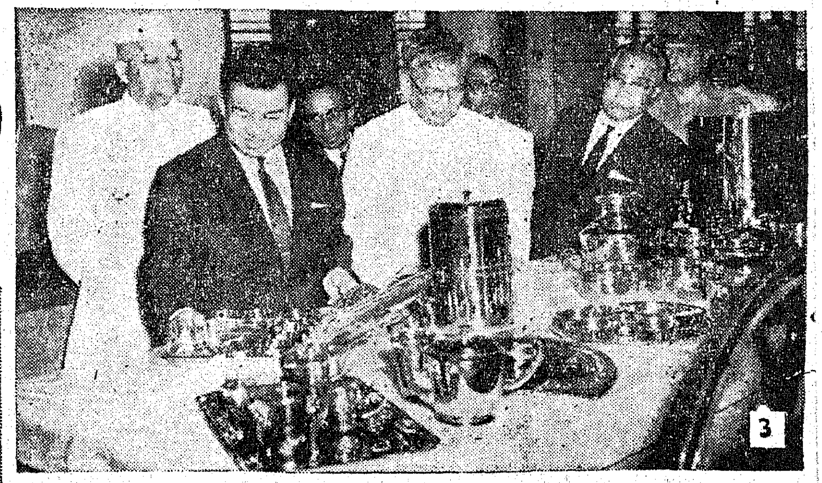
Four Ordnance Factories for Madras.

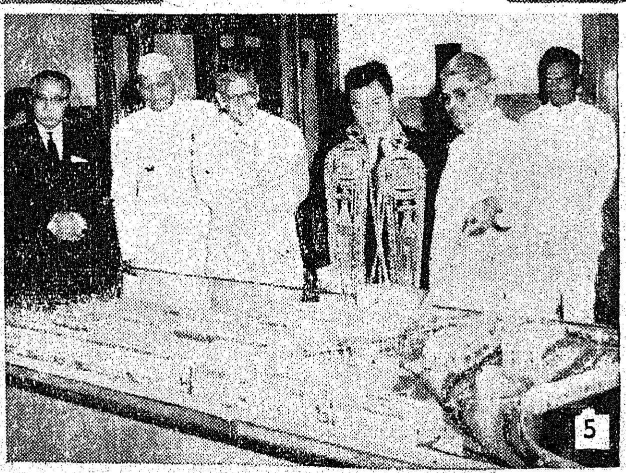
Having been selected as a site for as many as four Ordnance Factories, the capital city of Madras State will gain considerably in industrial importance.

First of these the Ordnance Clothing Factory, Avadi, second of its kind in India, is already functioning for about a year. The second one, a Parachute factory, is coming up. The third one is a Rs. 15 crore project covering an area of about 1,400 acres. This one is the Heavy Vehicles Factory. The fourth project is a factory for the manufacture of marine diesel engines in collaboration with Messrs. M.A.N., a West German firm.

Royal Visitors







1. Arrival
2. At Mahabalipuram
3. At the Industrial Estate
4. At the Victoria Technical Institute
5. At the Integral Coach Factory

VISIT OF the PRIME MINISTER OF CAMBODIA.

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The PORTS of MADRAS

Dr. A. RAMASWAMY, M.A., M.LITT., PH.D. (Lond.)
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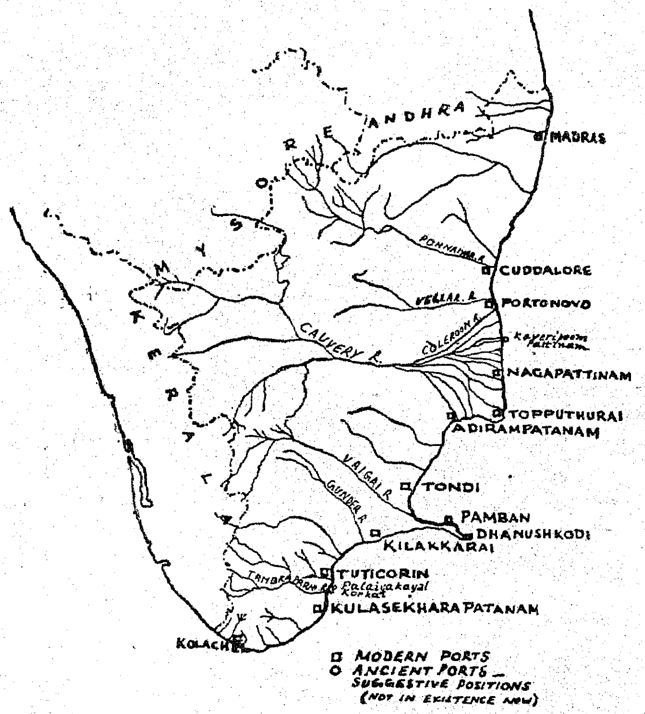
Empires and civilizations have grown around ports. Carthage, Alexandria and Kabaris (Kaveripoompattinam) had all been the cradles of civilization and centres of anicent empires. The ports develop the hinterland by promoting trade. At the same time they enrich the culture of the region by the abundant opportunities they provide for the mingling of the peoples of different parts of the world in the course of their trading activities. Thus ports are perhaps the windows through which a country sees the rest of the world.

During the hegemony of the Cheras, the Cholas and the Pandyas there was an all-round development of ports and foreign trade in the Tamil Country. Their desire to have a powerful navy to protect the sea frontiers gave an impetus to the ship-building industry. During the period of the later Cholas, there was intense naval activity. Rajaraja Chola's (985—1014 A.D.) occupation of Talaittakkolam and Kadaram and Rajendra Chola's campaign in the Far East would not have been possible without the support of powerful naval wings. Indian vessels were so freely moving in the high Pacific that Kulottunga Chola (1070—1120 A.D) found it worthwhile to have diplomatic and commercial relations with the Chinese.



The ancient ports of Tamil Country, e.g., Puhar, Korkai and Tondi served different political units. The Cholas, the Pandyas and the Cheras had their exclusive ports for the commerce of their countries. Through these ports also entered their strategic material-horses for their cavalry. There are evidences of the Pandyas and the Cholas having maintained very fine cavalry. Evidently, the ancient Tamil ports had to rest content with serving the Sovereigns of the South. As the three major powers in the Tamil Country crumbled, so did the ports that served them.

The decline of ancient ports

The ancient ports were located on the estuaries of rivers and backwaters. The rivers and the backwaters which provided the facilities for the movement of goods enabled the ports at the estuaries to develop into important and valuable collection centres for the goods of the neighbouring regions. Puhar (Kaveripoompattinam) at the mouth of the Cauvery and Korkai on the estuary of the Tambaraparni served the Chola and the Pandiayan kingdoms respectively. The Great Tamil epics the *Silapadikaram* and the *Manimekalai* depict the glories of Puhar and its abrupt end as a result of erosion by the sea. Korkai was a thriving

port for a long time. The Greeks and the Romans came to the ports of the Tamil Country to buy spices, textiles and pearls.

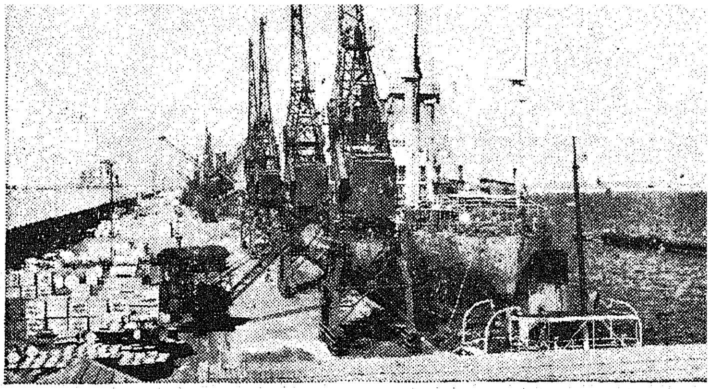
However, with the steady silting up of the river estuaries and with the construction of bigger and longer ships, the estuaries lost their worthiness as safe harbours. Later the decline of Rome paved the way for the rise of the Arab traders who established many new trading settlements in the Eastern coast. Kayalpattinam of the Madras Coast was the main centre of their activity.

By the 15th century, the Vijaynagar Empire which had became supreme, subdued the lingering old principalities of the South and the whole region was brought under one unified control. Therefore, the need for ports serving small independent political units was no longer felt. Instead, the ports were required to serve a much widened hinterland brought about by the political unification achieved under the Vijayanagar rule. Further, the European traders who visited the Eastern waters in the 15th and 16th centuries came in search of commodities much different from those required by the earlier traders and a premium was placed on indigo and textiles. The advent of the European traders and their rivalry with the Arabs in their commercial activities probably accounts for the decline of Korkai and Kayal. The ports which had hinterlands producing the commodities required by the European traders shot up into prominence.

Rise of modern ports

As a result of the shifts in the hinterland and the momentous changes in the pattern of ships visiting the Indian waters, open seabords were preferred to the sheltered ports of the past and gradually most of the old ports fell into desuetude, which in turn promoted the rise of modern ports. Thus Madras in the North, Cuddalore and Nagapattinam in the Centre and Tuticorin in the South became the outlets for the Northern, Central and Southern regions of the Tamil Country. There was also a degree of specialisation among the ports. The major port of Madras specialised in entrepot trade and bulk imports from foreign countries passed through her. The string of minor ports to the south of Madras served as outlets for the hinterland behind them and also developed valuable trade connections with Malaya and other regions in the Far East. Tuticorin specialised in the supply of essential food and textile requirements of the Tamilian settlers in the plantation regions of Ceylon.

Colachel in the west is a new acquisition for the Madras State. With the further economic development of the Kanyakumari district, the trade through this port may be expected to increase in the years to come.



A view of the Madras Harbour

Madras Port is the major one of the Madras State. In 1639, the East India Company established its trading settlement at the place now known as Madras which was in close proximity to the Portugeuse trading settlement at Santhome. The open roads of the Madras Port in course of time failed to serve the needs of the ever growing trade and in July 1868, the Madras Chamber of Commerce appealed to the Government of Madras to construct $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of breakwater in the open sea so that ships may be sheltered within the area enclosed by the breakwater during their loading and unloading operations. On the representation of the Chamber of Commerce, the then Governor of Madras wrote in his minutes that Madras Port by that time had become more valuable and more vulnerable. The minutes which contained the following telling sentence emphasized the need for a protected harbour: "The danger of a defenceless roadstead is however, not only a weather danger, it is also a war danger".

The construction of the Madras Harbour began in 1876. It consisted of two projecting concrete arms of about 2,500 feet long, called the North and South Groynes which ran at right angles to the shore, and on the east a breakwater in which an entrance of 515 feet was provided. There was a pier projecting from the shore. *Masulla* boats took delivery of the goods brought by ocean-going vessels and unloaded them at the pier.

An elaborate project for the construction of berths in the port was begun in 1910 and completed in 1916. The old entrance on the eastern side was closed as it ran the risk of being continuously silted and a new entrance was opened on the north-eastern side.

The Port of Madras has a vast hinterland lying in the States of Madras, Mysore and Andhra Pradesh. The Madras Port has trade and commercial ties with other distant States as well. This port which is busy throughout the year is noted for its quick loading and unloading operations. It handles over two million tons of goods annually. Coal and food grains are the major imports, while hides and skins, tobacco and ores are the major exports.

The Port has a number of first class berths and has its own railway system. The Port offers all modern facilities for the handling and storage of cargo including arrangements to pump vegetable oil in bulk into ships' holds. Under a Third Plan project the harbour is being further extended to the south. The expansion schemes of the Port include the construction of additional berths, special berths and a passenger depot with all modern facilities.

Tuticorin

The port of Tuticorin ranks third among the ports in South India in the matter of coast-wise trade, the other two being Madras and Cochin. It is located on the Gulf of Mannar roughly 100 miles from Cape Comorin. The port is an open roadstead and the anchorage is about 5 miles east of Hare island. The cargo is handled by lighters between ship and shore. The Bay formed by Hare Island, Devil's Point and the main land gives ample protection to the lighters from monsoonic weather conditions. The port is open to traffic throughout the year and continuous dredging is done to keep the channel open between the shore and the roadstead.

The main articles of export from this port are palmyrah fibre, onions, cotton, cement, salt and goats. Foodgrains, chemical manure, coal, cotton, machinery and firewood are the major imports. The volume of exports and imports that passed through this port in the year 1960-61 were over 15 and 4 lakhs of tons of goods respectively.

Projects for development

From 1919 onwards three schemes were proposed for developing Tuticorin into a major port. They were the Wolfe Barry Scheme of 1919, the Bristow Scheme of 1929 and the Chatterjee Scheme of 1954. These schemes however did not meet with the approval of the Government.

The Government is at present considering the well-known Sethusamudram Scheme submitted by the Special Committee appointed for the purpose. This Scheme among other things considered the feasibility of connecting the Palk Bay with the Gulf of Mannar. For the development of the Tuticorin Harbour, the Committee selected a site adjoining Selective Reef further to the north of the site selected by Mr. Chatterjee. The lay out of the approach channel and dock and other improvements as suggested by the Committee was estimated to cost Rs. 162 crores. The approach channel was to be 5,400 yards long and 100 yards wide and 36 feet deep. An anchorage was to be built at the western end of the approach channel. A pier and causeway carrying a railway and road were to connect the shore with the port.

It is claimed that the development of a deep sea harbour at Tuticorin will enable this port to serve as an alternative port to Colombo. Both Indian and foreign ships can bunker at the place instead of at Colombo and thus effect considerable savings in foreign exchange.

As for other advantages it is said that an industria belt can be developed around the port of Tuticorin and that the displaced persons from Ceylon may be rehabilitated here. An all-weather port at Tuticorin will also help to surmount the problem of scarcity of lighters during fair weather.

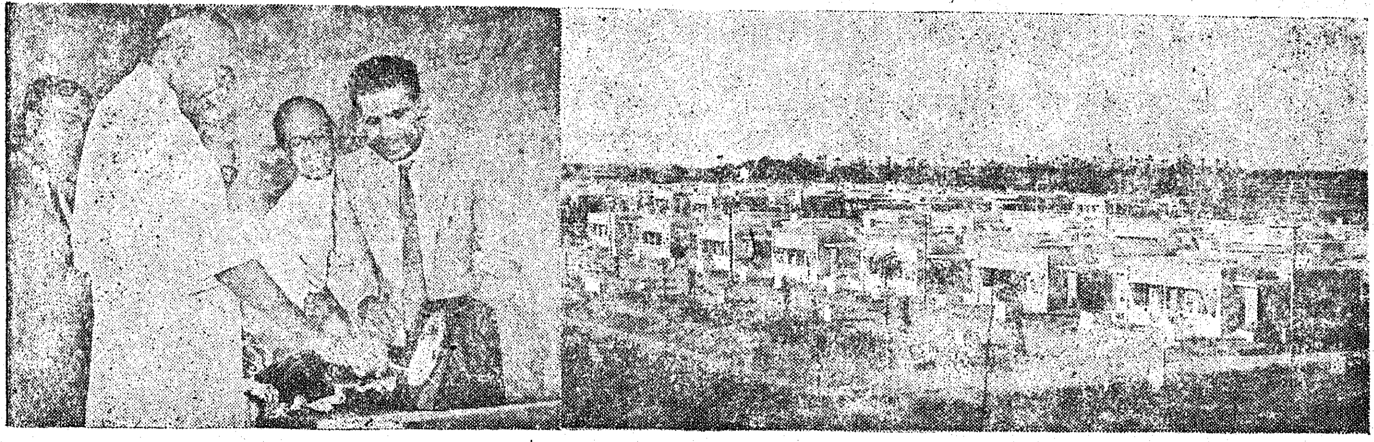
Nagapattinam

This minor port is located at the mouth of the Koduvayar river in the Bay of Bengal roughly 165 miles from Madras and 20 miles from Cuddalore and it is the chief port of the Thanjavur district. Prior to the Second World War, steamers on Bombay–Rangoon, Karachi-Calcutta and Madras-Strait Lines called regularly at this port. This port is equipped with wharves and other facilities for the landing and shipment of goods. A safe anchorage is found within two miles of the shore and steamers trading between this port and Ceylon anchor half-a-mile away. The port is further connected by a river and a canal with the tobacco growing interior. The Madras Straits passenger service boats alone call at this port regularly at present.

The Port dealt with 39,814 tons of export goods in the year 1960-61 consisting mainly of jaggery, cement and tobacco.

The Intermediate Ports Development Committee has made a number of recommendations for the development of this port. Accordingly, the wharf is being extended. The construction of a reinforced concrete pier with removable needed piles from the shore to a distance of 800 feet from the sea, the reconstruction and improvement of passenger sheds, the reconstruction

A view of the Colachel Port.



Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, inaugurating the Special Armed Police Colony at Sathyamoorthy Nagar, Avadi, on January 31, 1963. A view of the Colony is seen on the right.

of some 350 feet of damaged lighterage wharf and construction of quarters for the staff are the other schemes proposed by the Committee.

Cuddalore

This port is situated at the confluence of the rivers Paravanar and Cadilam, roughly 85 miles south of Madras, coastwise. It has wharves and a quarry wall. The ships anchor about a mile off-shore. It is also one of the main ports of entry for coal required by the Southern Railways.

In recent years, the port had developed an export trade in iron ore brought from the Bellary-Hospet-Sandur region. Other cargoes handled at this port include the exports of such items as cement from Dalmiapuram, sugar from the mills in the South Arcot district, Magnasite from the factories in Salem and Mangalore tiles. The imports consist of fertilizers, sulphur, food grains and machine tools in lots of a few thousand tons under each category. The volume of total export of goods in the year 1960-61 was 313,846 tons and imports, 114,580 tons.

The Intermediate Ports Development Committee has made the following suggestions for the improvements of this port: Development of the port into a 9 feet harbour capable of handling roughly 6·5 lakhs tons of traffic per annum, construction of two inclined breakwaters at the mouth was recommended by the Poona Research Station, and the development of Spoil Island for the handling of ore.

Porto Novo

This minor port on the river Vellar, owes it development to the trading activities of the Dutch who constructed a factory here. In the year 1960-61 about 20 vessels touched this port and dealt with 1,367 tons of goods.

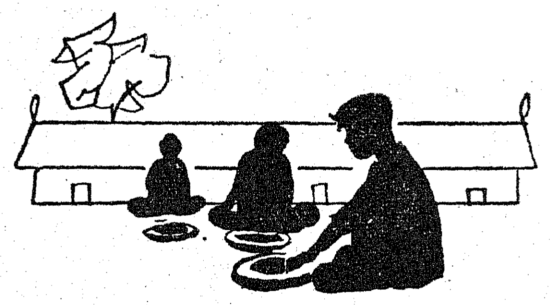
This minor port of Colachel in the Kanyakumari district lies midway between the two important ports of Cochin and Tuticorin. This port has a chequered history as Greeks, Romans, Egyptians, and Babylonians had trading connections with it and its neighbourhood, Eraniel. The Portuguese and the Dutch were attracted by the port as it served a very valuable hinterland from which came textiles and spices. The Dutch established a factory at this place in 1714 and fortified it. This port was eventually taken over by the Travancore State after the defeat inflicted on the Dutch by Raja Marthanda Varma at the battle at Colachel in 1741.

Colachel is the only port in the west coast which has some of the features of a natural harbour. The line of rocks strewn in the sea coast of the town has formed a partial breakwater, under the shelter of which loading and unloading operations are carried on from small cargo boats and lighters. The ocean-going vessels anchor at a distance of 4 to 10 miles from the shore. Valuable ores like monazite, limenite and zircon and salted fish and palmyrah fibre are the main products of export from this port.

Coastal Shipping

At present the ports of Madras do not function in an exclusive way. Still, a measure of greater co-ordination can be promoted by the allocation of special spheres of activity to the various ports. Madras by its location will loom large as the main port for imports; Cuddalore will be the valuable outlet for bulky goods like the Salem iron ore and the Neyveli lignite, Nagapattinam as the last port of call for ships going ... specialise in the trade with Ma... Countries; and Tuticorin wit... Sethusamudram Project will ... for International Trade, ap... existing trade connections ...

Midday



Meals scheme

The provision of free midday meals to school children has always been recognized as one of the incentives to regular attendance of pupils enrolled. The experience gained in organizing this schemes leaves no doubt as to the potentiality of this movement. Free supply of food has ensured not only regular attendance but also better enrolment. Pupils of different communities sit together and eat together. The silent revolution in outlook will go a long way in bringing about a unified well-integrated society with out any consciousness of caste differences.

The origin and development of the midday meals scheme in Madras State are an indication of the silent revolution that has been taking place in the field of education in modern times. The last decade may well be described as the golden age in the history of education in Madras. The increase in the number of schools and pupils, the ameliorative measure to improve the status and condition of teachers and the various concessions to poor students bear testimony to the importance attached to education in this State.

The concept of education has been broadening out recently. Instead of having been the privilege of the fortunate few it has now become the birthright of all. Instead of increasing only the training of the intellect it has come to denote the development of the whole personality of the child—physical, intellectual, emotional and moral. Instead of concentrating only on the intellectual side, educationists have come to feel that the body is the foundation of all education and without a sound body there can be no sound education. The organisation of the midday meals scheme is only a concrete implementation of this principles.

Sri T. N. Sundaram, Headmaster of T. Nagar High School, is seen handing over a purse for the National Defence Fund to the Chief Minister on January 23, 1963.

Freedom from hunger

Article 45 of the Constitution of India lays down that free and compulsory education should be provided for all children up to the age of 14. Towards the attainment of this goal, a large number of schools were opened in school less villages with a population of 300 and above. In spite of this availability of educational facility, most children did not go to school. The mere opening of schools in schoolless villages did not act as a magic spell to bring all children into school. There is another factor which operates strongly against full enrolment. This is the poverty of the parents and consequent effects on children. Poor parents keep their children from school to work in the fields or tend the cattle or do something else to supplement the meagre family income. Even if some of these children go to school, they inevitably have to starve for want of noon-meal. It is, therefore, obvious that in order to stimulate enrolment and retain the children for the full school course, at least one noon-meal should be provided for them at the school.

Without an exception, every elementary school, especially in rural areas, has at least a few children who go hungry. Such hungry children cannot be educated.

35

Merely getting them enrolled and making them stay at school for a specific period is not what is to be satisfied with. If they are to attend to their lessons and derive the benefit of schooling, they should have freedom from hunger at least while at school.

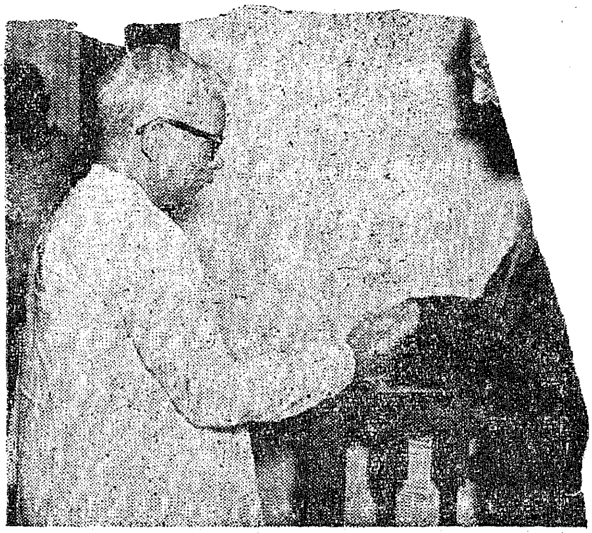
One finds on one hand widespread starvation among school children. At the same time, day after day thousands of adults and children who cannot work or will not work are being fed, out of charities. The Madras Scheme of Free School Meals has attempted successfully to dam these wild stream of charity and 'Annadan' and divert a portion of the flow into these elementary schools in order to reap rich harvest of effective education.

An experiment

This scheme was launched unofficially in an organised form purely as voluntary measure in July 1956 under the guidance of the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, entirely out of Public donations. This was not a scheme made to order by any one. But it had a natural steady growth as a result of repeated suggestions and persistent propaganda. Our villages who are used to the idea of feeding others on specified occasions responded to this call enthusiastically and generously when they realised that there were poor starving children not merely in the streets but also in schools. Being a spontaneous movement, provision for school-meals was organised in different ways in different places. It becomes obvious that it was not merely the rich that were ready to contribute to this cause. The poor were equally responsive. The literate and the illiterate vied with one another in contributing their mite.

Government subsidy

The Madras Government watched this voluntary movement of free midday meals for school children for over a year. They were greatly impressed with the enthusiasm and the earnestness of the public and it was in November 1957 that they came into the picture to stabilise and to extend this programme of Free Midday Meals for school children, with financial assistance. While the entire non-recurring expenditure on the supply of cooking utensils, etc., has to be borne by the local community the recurring expenditure on the provision of Midday Meals is shared between the local community and the Government. The local community has to provide 40 per cent and the Government will bear the remaining 60 per cent of the recurring cost. Government subsidy, however, does not exceed 6 nP. per meal. Government grants are paid to the approved Committees quarterly and in advance on the basis of the estimate expenditure after ensuring that the share of the local [illegible] rthcoming. Such advances are adjusted [illegible]ent quarter before the next advance is



Sri M. Bhakthavatsalam, Minister for Finance is seen re[illegible] Mr. Loud Bridges, Chairman of the British Council [illegible] Governor's Room in the Secretariat.

The meal consists ordinarily of simple cooked ri[illegible] sambar and/or curd. Instances are not wanting, [illegible] the local community provide a better meal consis[illegible] 2 or 3 courses. The arrangements for cooking this food vary from place to place. In big centres, [illegible] cooks are employed. In small centres, the se[illegible] either the servants employed for cleaning the s[illegible] of the neighbours are utilised. Such services ar[illegible] either for a small remuneration or gratis.

Expansion of the movement

When Government came into the picture with a [illegible] of subsidy out of public funds, certain rules anc[illegible] tions became necessary. To be eligible for Gov[illegible] grant there should be an approved Midday Mea[illegible] mittee consisting of donors constituted either f[illegible] school or for a group of schools. What is insiste[illegible] is the constitution of a Committee of donors and n[illegible] pattern either for their constitution or for their fu[illegible] ing. There is a great deal of elasticity with re[illegible] the constitution and the procedure for the fun[illegible] of these committees. Generally, the headmast[illegible] elementary school in the locality is the ex[illegible] Secretary to the Midday Meals Committe[illegible] maintains the accounts.

This official approval and financial support b[illegible] ment accelerated the expansion of this Mov[illegible] and more schools organised Free Meals Cen[illegible]

Phenomenal progress

The movement continued to make phenomenal [illegible] gress during the Second Plan period and at the end [illegible] Second Plan nearly 10 lakhs of pupils were fe[illegible] types of Elementary Sch[illegible]s in the State. Th[illegible]

ves an indication of the progress made and
iture to Government from year to year :—

	Number of schools in the State.	Number of schools where midday meals provided.	Number of pupils fed (in lakhs).	Expenditure (in lakhs).
-58	22,220	8,270	2·29	6·93
-59	23,449	11,552	4·00	34·10
-60	24,580	23,136	7·75	63·91
-61	25,149	24,586	8·86	82·78
-62	27,135	26,406	11·80	115·00
-63	28,005	27,256	12·65	..

addition, Midday Meals are provided in the schools y the Corporation of Madras entirely from the fund e Madras Corporation and in the Harijan Welfare ols and in Primary Schools in Kanyakumari district ly from public funds, the number of pupils fed in schools being about 1·26 lakhs. The number of en fed under all schemes at the end of the Second was 10·09 lakhs. The number fed as on 31st March was 12·65 lakhs and the scheme was in force in elementary schools out of 28,005 in the State. Meals are also provided on a purely voluntary 25 Secondary Schools, the number of pupils fed ,500.

amme for the Third Plan

proposed to feed additionally 7 lakhs of pupils by l of the Third Plan, thus bringing the total number ils fed to 17 lakhs. This will be roughly one- of the total number of pupils reading in elemen- chools in the State at that time.

public including the poorer sections of the commu- have come forward willingly to co-operate with the ities for the successful working of this Scheme. ain localities landholders, big and small contri- towards this scheme at the time of harvest a speci- quantity of foodgrains according to the extent of owned by them. In bigger places donations are y collected in cash. In several villages a few rich landowners of the village come together and undertake to feed the poor children for a specified period of time, like a week, a month, etc., by rotation so as to cover the entire year. In certain places even daily wage-earners have come forward to contribute their mite to this cause. Teachers also have come forward to contribute generously for the scheme. In some high schools the teachers have taken the initiative by agreeing to feed by turns some students per day. In course of time the villagers take up the working of the scheme. There are centres where food is cooked in the individual houses for a specific number of pupils and sent to the schools at the pointed hour. The houses in the villages take their turn in cooking and supplying the Midday Meals.

This scheme of Free School Meals is also in operation in many high schools without any Government subsidy. The entire cost of feeding the student in high schools is met by local subscriptions and contributions. In as many as 626 high schools, 18,500 students are being provided with free noon-meals.

Benefit of the scheme

The benefits derived from the Free Meal Scheme have been many. It helped to bring into the school thousands of children who had been kept off the school on account of the poverty of their parents. It prevented the wastage caused by children who left the school prematurely in order to supplement the slender family resources with their own small earnings. It contributed to the effective education of the children who were no longer hungry and listless in the class-room. The scheme has also brought about a change in the social outlook of the old and young. Poor children of all communities and creeds sit together and eat the same meal. This has resulted in breaking down the caste barriers in the minds of the young. This silent social revolution will go a long way in building up a unified and well-integrated society without caste consciousness.

The large-scale provision of free meals in elementary schools has gone a long way to make the task of universal primary education easy and because of this it can be confidently expected that the goal of universal education for the entire age-group 6—11 will be achieved earlier than expected.

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ensus Figures

MADRAS CITY

Literate and educated persons, Males	.. ..	633,203
„ „ „ Females	..	395,123

Please note that the figures given above are the correct ones.